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PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE ON NUCLEAR TEST BAN

PM231642 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Editorial article: "The Prohibition of Nuclear Weapon Testing Is a Matter for All Peoples"]

[Text] The situation that has taken shape in the world at the present time demands of statesmen and public figures and of every person on earth as never before an understanding of the danger point that the world has reached in our time. The unprecedented arms race being forced on by Washington and its NATO allies on earth and the U.S. project for transferring it to space, the stockpiling of mountains of nuclear and missile weapons, and the Pentagon plans for stuffing Europe full of yet another type of barbaric weapon in the form of binary chemical weapons have all served to confront mankind with a stark choice. What must be done to halt a further slide toward thermonuclear disaster? The fact is that nuclear weapons -- the creature of imperialism -- embody forces capable of destroying all the achievements of civilization.

Recognition of the scale of the danger inherent in these weapons has begun to be shown particularly extensively now that people throughout the world are reflecting on what follows when nuclear energy gets out of control, as occurred in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. The numerous instances of accidents and radioactive discharges at American and West European nuclear power stations, which the world public has recently been learning about in detail, also gives pause for thought here. No matter how the Western propaganda mouthpieces may try to inflate the scale of the trouble caused by the Chernobyl accident in their shameless fabrications, they are unable to conceal the fact that the scale of that misfortune bears no comparison with what threatens mankind if nuclear war is brought down on it. The nuclear arsenals stockpiled throughout the world contain the seeds of thousands and thousands of disasters much more terrible than Chernobyl.

And that is the main point right now. Anyone who is concerned not just in words but in reality for the destiny of mankind and for its present and future is bound to come to the same conclusion. This is convincingly confirmed by the universal sharpening of attention to nuclear questions and above all to the problems of halting tests and limiting and reducing, and then of completely eliminating, one of the most dangerous means of mass destruction. Guided by the security interests of its own people and all mankind, the Soviet state has proposed a wide-scale program for averting thermonuclear war and eliminating mass destruction weapons before the end of the 20th century. It was expounded in the 15 January 1985 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and fully approved by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Because of the U.S. ruling circles' unwillingness to take the path of an extensive review of their policy of nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, our country believes that in the interests of improving the international situation it is time to make some kind of start [s chego-to nachinat], to get things moving, and to set an example. Guided by these considerations, the Soviet Union has proposed starting with the simplest and most readily achievable steps that can be separated out from the overall context without upsetting the balance in the correlation of forces or anyone's security, namely the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and the halting of nuclear tests. How timely and far-sighted these steps are may be judged from the reaction they have engendered throughout the world.

The Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests encountered the support of all peace-loving forces in the international arena. Dozens of states in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America issued demands that the United States follow the Soviet Union's example. More than two-thirds of U.S. citizens came out in support of the moratorium. The demand for the end to nuclear testing was reflected in decisions of the UN General Assembly where 120 states voted for an appropriate resolution.

The will of hundreds and hundreds of millions of people is expressed in the well-known appeal by the leaders of six states -- Argentina, Greece, Mexico, India, Tanzania, and Sweden -- to the leaders of the USSR and the United States.

The struggle for the prohibition of nuclear tests has assumed such a broad scale that it can be rightly described as the vital concern of all peoples. This is generating fury in the camp of those who reject the idea of a moratorium and who would like to continue to keep the world in their nuclear sights. Is this not the reason why the members of the antinuclear movement in the United States, Britain, and a number of other NATO countries are being cruelly persecuted? Police batons are used to rain down blows on them; they are thrown behind bars and put in the dock for their antiwar convictions and for their devotion to the ideals of peace and freedom. The special services and the bourgeois propaganda mouthpieces are waging an unbridled "psychological war" against the supporters of nuclear disarmament.

All the same, the forces of reaction and war are not able to curb those who have come to realize the awesome danger hanging over the world through the fault of the nuclear maniacs. Many eminent scientists -- Nobel Prize winners -- recently issued statements demanding that the arms race be halted, that nuclear explosions be stopped, and that the way be opened to agreement on banning all nuclear tests. Weeks of action in defense of peace are being held on all continents, and at mass rallies petitions are being adopted calling on governments to embark on the road of active support for the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other proposals aimed at curbing the forces of aggression and war.

The biggest international and national antiwar organizations are holding conferences and meetings at which declarations are being adopted calling on the broad masses of the people to make their contribution to the solution of the most pressing problem of our time -- ending the nuclear arms race on earth and preventing it from gaining access to space. These organizations are deeply convinced that the most important condition for the transformation of 1986 into a real International Year of Peace would be the total cessation of nuclear tests in the immediate future and the reaching of understanding between all interested powers on the conclusion of an agreement totally prohibiting these tests.

Our country is fully determined to do everything in its power to achieve this noble goal and to back up by deeds its foreign policy aims. This is borne out by the decision made this month by our government to extend the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August this year. This decision was announced 14 May by M.S. Gorbachev speaking on Soviet television. This act of goodwill is being received with tremendous enthusiasm by millions of people in all countries.

Banning nuclear tests today means halting the further improvement of various kinds of nuclear weapons and barring the path to the creation [sozdaniye] of space-based strike weapons.

It is clear to everyone that the planet can be rid of nuclear tests. It is merely up to the U.S. side. Aware of this, the peoples demand that the United States follow the USSR's example, that the White House administration weigh with utmost responsibility the extent of the danger hanging over the world and heed the voice of the world community which insists on an end to nuclear tests.

The Soviet Union calls on the United States to go further, not to limit itself merely to ending explosions but also to positively resolve the specific question of banning nuclear tests, a question that perturbs everyone. It was for this purpose that the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee proposed holding an immediate meeting with the U.S. President in the capital of any European state or in Hiroshima. Such a meeting, if it were to take place and be crowned with positive results, would clear the way for the conclusion of an international treaty on a general and complete ban on nuclear weapon tests.

Much is being said and written in the United States about the supposed nuclear superiority of the USSR, this being an attempt to justify the continuing nuclear explosions in the United States. It was proved a long time ago that these claims are totally groundless. We do not pursue military superiority, but we will not forego our security either. An end to nuclear tests would not bring any advantages to either side. This is axiomatic. However, the continuation of tests is aimed at smashing the prevailing balance of forces. This, actually, is what the opponents of the moratorium and the conclusion of a nuclear weapon test ban agreement are counting on; namely the ones who conducted the latest nuclear explosion at the Nevada test site on 21 May, the 11th explosion since 6 August 1985 when the Soviet Union announced the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions.

It is easy to imagine the gain that would accrue to the cause of peace all over the world in the event that an agreement on the end to nuclear tests is concluded. After all, a ban on nuclear weapon tests accords with the vital interests of all peoples. The interdependence of the security of all states in our nuclear age has become so close that its violation in one region in the event of a nuclear conflict would inevitably create a lethal threat for the whole world.

This is why we believe, and this viewpoint is shared today by a growing number of states in the international arena, that the United States must display a new and realistic approach toward the Soviet proposals and initiatives. What is needed at a time when the world is sliding down the slope toward a nuclear war are approaches and criteria that are different from the ones that have up to now guided the White House administration, and the U.S. military-industrial complex which stands behind it, in the determination of its foreign policy and military-strategic course.

Time imperatively dictates the necessity of giving up the groundless and illusory hopes that nuclear missile superiority can be attained by the United States, the chauvinistic intoxication of the great power policy of "neoglobalism" and its loathsome manifestation -- state terrorism. This would be to the benefit both for the United States and also for the cause of preserving peace all over the world.

It is time, it has long been high time that Washington heed the clearly expressed will of the whole of mankind, demanding that nuclear tests be ended and banned.

AKHROMEYEV, BESSMERTNYKH PRESS CONFERENCE ON SALT II

LD232107 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Report by unidentified announcer on 23 May Moscow press conference on the question of nuclear arms limitation, opened by Vladimir Lomeyko, chief of the Foreign Ministry Press Department, with Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh, deputy foreign minister, and Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, first deputy defense minister and chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces, passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] A press conference took place in Moscow today on the question of nuclear arms limitation. It was opened by Comrade Lomeyko, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department. The journalists were addressed by Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister.

[Bessmertnykh] "According to statements by U.S. officials, the U.S. Government is now examining the question of its future attitude toward SALT II, the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. It is reported that Washington is weighing various types of action: to formally observe the provisions of the treaty for a little while, officially discard the treaty, or crawl out of it by rejecting the existing limitations as they become an obstacle to the development of U.S. strategic programs."

The types of action are varied, but their essence is the same: one way or another, today or tomorrow, to fling wide open the gates to the strongest possible arms race.

"At the same time, the U.S. Administration is once again attempting to cast a shadow over the Soviet policy regarding this treaty. The aim blatantly being pursued is to create a pretext for the United States to violate the SALT II treaty in order to justify its gamble on a further strategic arms race. All this is being done despite the fact that from the moment the SALT II treaty was signed in June 1979 the Soviet Union has built its policy in the strategic arms sphere in such a way as to ensure that the approximate parity established by that historic international legal act was not only preserved, but also strengthened. The Soviet side proceeds from the view that despite its formal expiration on 31 December 1985, the treaty remains a living and effective document embodying the results of many years of cooperation between the USSR and the United States in the seventies to end the nuclear missile arms race and strengthen strategic stability. The predominant importance of SALT II lies in the fact that, being based on the mutually recognized principle of equality and equal security, it places an obligation on the sides to observe both quantitative and substantial qualitative limitations on their strategic nuclear systems. [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1205 on 23 May carries a report on the press conference and adds the following: "The treaty established not only an initial total level of 2,400 units, but also a reduction of it to 2,250 units if the treaty was ratified. Corresponding "ceilings" were provided for and are in operation for the main groups of strategic systems -- 1,320 units for ballistic multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles (MIRV's) and for heavy armed bombers; 1,200 units for ballistic missiles (not including bombers) with multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles; no more than 820 units for ICBM's with MIRVs."]

Being a restraint on the arms race and an instrument for reducing the sides' strategic systems, the treaty has thus also worked to create a basis for consolidating the trend to further effective and substantial strategic arms reductions. Unfortunately the refusal of the U.S. Government to ratify the treaty has not permitted this trend to materialize. In the early eighties the treaty was opposed in the United States by forces that had no wish to accept the strategic parity proclaimed by the treaty -- forces striving for military superiority. The Soviet side advocates preserving everything positive that has been achieved to date in the sphere of strategic arms limitation. It proceeds from the point that observance on a reciprocal basis of the provisions of the SALT II treaty could continue to be of great importance for maintaining the strategic balance and ensuring favorable conditions for drawing up new accords on arms limitation and reduction. [TASS adds: "Of course, the USSR cannot fail to take into account here how matters will stand in relation to the prevention of an arms race in space and the observance by the United States of the ABM Treaty, which the United States is also now undermining. In other words, the Soviet Union will take into account the actions of the U.S. side from the point of view of their influence on an alteration in the strategic situation."]

"If the SALT II treaty is undermined, the United States will bear full responsibility for such a course of events. Under those conditions the Soviet Union will draw the appropriate conclusions and take measures for an effective guarantee of its own security and the security of its allies. The Government of the United States should take this into consideration."

[Announcer] One of the first questions was put to Marshal of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, USSR chief of General Staff and first deputy defense minister. What is the significance of the SALT II treaty for restraining the arms race?

[Akhromeyev] "The SALT II treaty, even today, in the form in which it operates, restricts the deployment of the sides' strategic offensive weapons.

Had it been ratified, a more considerable contribution would have been made to restricting the arms race. But I repeat that even today it limits the strategic arms race.

"In the next few days another Ohio-type submarine will undergo sea trials in the United States. If the United States is going to observe the SALT II treaty, it will have to dismantle the missiles either on two Poseidon-type submarines or a corresponding number of Minuteman-3 intercontinental missiles. This applies, these kind of restrictions apply not just to the United States of America; they also apply to the same extent to the Soviet Union. While the SALT II treaty was in effect, we have been reducing our strategic armaments and we treat this, well, the way one should when a treaty is signed. [Moscow TASS in English at 1359 GMT on 23 May carries a report on the press conference and adds the following: "Since the time the treaty was signed, the USSR scrapped 72 ICBM launchers and 21 heavy bombers."]

All in all, under the provisional agreement, SALT II and the SALT II treaty, the Soviet Union has dismantled 540 strategic delivery vehicles, the United States -- 168. So, the accords are working. We are in favor of them continuing to work but, of course, on condition that the United States observes them."

[Lomeyko] "Thank you."

[Lomeyko points to the audience] "Your question. Go ahead, please."

[A colonel in Soviet Army uniform in the audience] "Have there been violations of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. side? And if so, what were they?"

[Akromeyev] "Yes, there are violations of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. side. Our government made detailed announcements about these in a memorandum in January 1984 and in a TASS statement of June 1985. Well, I can cite some examples. By deploying its Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and long-range cruise missiles in Western Europe, the United States thereby violates Article 12 of the treaty on noncircumvention of it. Pershing-2 missiles and long-range cruise missiles are strategic weapons in relation to the Soviet Union. In essence, the United States is creating, by circumvention of the existing strategic balance established by the SLAT II treaty, additional strategic potential."

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1545 GMT on 23 May carries a report on the press conference and adds the following:" The U.S. Administration has recently been declaring more and more often that the SALT II treaty is not subject to monitoring [kontrol]. At the press conference Comrade Akhromeyev was asked to expound the Soviet side's opinion on this issue:

It is now very fashionable -- pardon me for such an unoffial expression -- in the United States to talk about the impossibility of monitoring the fulfillment of the requirements of the SALT II treaty. When this treaty was signed, however, the previous administration of President Carter asserted quite the opposite. It is our conviction that the SALT II treaty is reliably being verified by the national technical facilities of the sides, and, in addition to this, by the requirements that have been incorporated in the treaty. Every land-based missile in out in the open, both in our country and in the United States; submarines in their bases are not concealed either -- both we and United States keep a check on them; strategic bombers at airfields are not concealed either. As far as tests are concerned, they are reliably verified. The United States started to talk about the treaty not being verified when it was decided not to ratify it: in 1980 and 1981. They are now actively talking about this only because, evidently, they are raising an axe over the treaty in order to terminate its validity."]

[TASS English adds: "In connection with allegations in the U.S. that the USSR developed and was developing the second new type of ICBM, Marshal Akhromeyev said, "The Soviet Union is testing only one new type of ICBM -- RS-22. This is allowed by the SALT-2 treaty."

"Talking about the testing in the USSR of the second new type of ICBM, the U.S. means the RS-12M missile, a modernization of our old ICBM RS-12.

"This version is based on the misinterpretation of the provisions of the SALT-2 treaty related to the composition of elements included into the so-called throw-weight of the missile.

"They do not include into the weight of the old missile RS-12 the weight of some of its elements, while unlawfully including into the throw-weight of the modernized ICBM RS-12M the weight of the equipment used during tests only.

"The aim is clear. The U.S. has developed one new type of ICBM (MX). At present, contrary to the treaty, it is developing the second new type of ICBM (Midgetman) and is seeking to find justification for this. Such is the underlying cause of the groundless accusation levelled by the U.S. against the USSR."

On President Reagan's remarks that the SALT-2 treaty was "unverifiable", Marshall Akhromeyev said that in elaborating the treaty, its content was determined in a way that would make it controlled by the sides' national technical means.

Additional measures were worked out when necessary.

The claims that the treaty was unverifiable were used in the past to thwart its ratification, and were being used at present to renounce it.

Asked about possible consequences of the U.S. refusal to comply with the SALT-2 treaty, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said:

"If the U.S. renounces the treaty, the restrictions containing the arms race in all directions will be lifted and the strategic potentials of the sides will grow."

Asked about the differences, if any, in the approaches to the problems of limiting and reducing strategic armaments between the present and previous American Administrations, Bessmertnykh said:

"We have the experience of talks on limiting nuclear armament with the U.S. under the administrations of Kennedy, Nixon, Carter.

"We achieved certain treaties and agreements. The main principle that was placed at the foundation of the talks was the principle of equality and equal security.

"The sides realized that the talks were conducted by the nations equal in strength. This made it possible to conclude the SALT-1 and SALT-2 treaties, and the agreement on the prevention of nuclear war.

"The Reagan administration is undertaking an attempt to depart from the fundamental principle which makes accords possible. That principle is equal security and equality. The present administration's actions have complicated talks in all areas, including strategic, space and other nuclear armaments."]

[Man from the floor in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation] "It is now written in the West that the Soviet side has submitted a draft agreement on intermediate-range missiles at the Geneva negotiations. What can you say about the substance of the draft?"

[Bessmertnykn] "The following situation has arisen. Hardly had the Soviet delegation laid on the negotiating table in Geneva the new draft agreemtn when on the same day, or the next day, it was made public by the U.S. side and then in a distorted form.

"After that, a number of official U.S. representatives commented on this draft of ours, again in a false light. Evidently this gives me grounds, given that the negotiations are confidential, to set out briefly certain points relating to the contents of this draft.

"Yes, the Soviet Union has indeed taken a constructive new step at the Geneva talks, geared to breaking the deadlock in the negotiations, which have come tc a standstill, including the sphere associated with medium-range missiles in Europe. The central provision of this draft is that an obligation should be made by the two sides, that is, the Soviet Union and the United States, to eliminate their medium-range missiles, both ballistic and cruise. Moreover, these missiles would be dismantled or destroyed together with their launchers.

"Measures are envisaged to ensure the viability of this agreement, if it is concluded: In particular, measures on the noncircumvention of the agreement and the nontransfer of both medium-range and strategic nuclear systems to other countries. Moreover, the Soviet Union has proposed that this obligation should naturally be reciprocal. Of course, the U.S. nuclear allies in NATO should not build up their relevant armaments."

[Moscow Domestic adds: "The following question was also asked at the press conference. What consequences could there be from a U.S. refusal to observe the treaty? Comrade Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, replied:

The SALT II treaty, even given its present status, nevertheless represents a considerable obstacle to the numerical buildup, the quantitative buildup of strategic armaments, and to their qualitative improvement. The question that arises is, what will happen if the United States renounces the treaty? As I have said, this is one of the possible options that the U.S. Administration will follow now: that is, a direct official renunciation. This will mean that, in effect, the restraints holding back the arms race in all its directions will be removed, and there will be an increase in the strategic potentials of the two sides, and one can even imagine the arms race in this sphere will begin to assume unpredictable parameters. As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said recently, if SALT II and the ABM treaty are undermined, mistrust between countries will intensify in a geometric progression. This will thus have an effect not just on relations between the USSR and United States, but also on the overall international situation."]

[Announcer] Question: The Soviet Union has again extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. Will this not prejudice the defense of the Soviet Union?

[Akhromeyev] "True enough, if one side tests and perfects its nuclear weapons and the other side does not, it is no doubt no great secret that the side carrying out tests derives definite advantages from this, and perhaps no small advantages at that. But the other side, which has opted for a unilateral ban on nuclear tests, gains, it seems to me, given the situation the world is in today, a great political advantage.

The fact that the Soviet Union gains this advantage not only, so to speak, as an advantage, but also that it is accommodating the peoples of the world and that it is striving to solve this problem for the interests of all peoples and not just, so to speak, for the sake of its own Soviet people -- I think this policy which the leadership of our party and the Soviet Government are pursuing is perfectly correct."

[Announcer] The participants in the press conference also replied to other questions from journalists.

[Video shows Bessmertnykh, Lomeyko, and Akhromeyev seated on rostrum on front of a large wall chart in tabular form, the writing and figures on which are indistinct. At the foot of this chart is a note in Russian and in English, shown in close-up when the camera focuses on the speakers: "Note: as of 23.5.86 the USSR and the United States have 2504 and 2210 delivery vehicles respectively: The United States has more warheads but on the whole there is an approximate parity in these weapons and systems."]

BOGACHEV READY FOR 'ANY' EXTRA VERIFICATION MEASURES

LD251934 Moscow World Service in English 1510 GMT 25 May 86

[Commentary by TASS Observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Ever since disarmement talks began 40 years ago there has been an ongoing dispute over the problem of verification. There could have been no dispute had it not been constantly fueled by the opponents of disarmament. Whenever the United States and other Western nations accepted certain arms limitation measures, verification problems were resolved. But whenever the international situation became aggravated through the fault of imperialist circles, and prospects for agreement on arms limitation declined, there immediately appeared so-called verification problems.

After it assumed power in 1980, the Reagan administration in effect adopted a policy of renouncing disarmament agreements reached with the Soviet Union on an equal footing. In its report for the fiscal year 1981, the Pentagon pointed out that the United States needed only such agreements with the Soviet Union that would direct military competition to areas where the United States will get a clear advantage. That is the basis of a policy aimed at securing military superiority over the Soviet Union. All that stood in the way of that policy was rejected and alleged verification problems were used as an excuse.

The United States, for instance, used this tactic to stall progress toward an agreement on a comprehensive nuclear test ban. Back in 1958, a conference of experts of eight nations, including the USSR and the United States, came to the conclusion that a total nuclear test ban lends itself to reliable verification with the help of national means. The United States said that national means were not enough. At the trilateral talks between the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain, held between 1977 and 1980 with a view to reaching agreement on banning nuclear tests, the United States kept on toughening its stand on verification. Having dragged its feet at the talks, the United States went on to break them off.

In order to remove all the so-called difficulties in resolving that problem the Soviet Union said that it is prepared to accept the most stringent verification measures, including on-site inspection. The Soviet Union accepted the move of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden whereby they offered their help in verifying a bilateral Soviet-American nuclear test ban. After that the United States had to make a clean breast of it and acknowledge that the sticking point is not at all verification.

The United States needs more nuclear tests to upgrade its nuclear weapons and develop attack space weapons. The American Administration proposed to the Soviet Union that they should exchange observers of nuclear tests and compare notes about how best to upgrade nuclear weapons. And perhaps one day, Washington said, the two sides will reach an agreement on halting nuclear tests. Accepting that proposal would be tantamount to substituting legalizing nuclear weapons upgrading for verifying a nuclear test ban.

The Soviet stand boils down to the following: Disarmament is possible without verification. But verification without disarmament makes no sense. In advancing its proposals for arms limitation and disarmament the Soviet Union has always closely linked verification with arms limitation and scrapping process. The Soviet Union extended that approach to verifying the implementation of the program for the total abolition of nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass extermination by the year 2000, which it advanced on 15 January.

The process of eliminating weapons could be verified by both national means and on-site inspection. The Soviet Union is prepared to reach agreement on any supplementary verification measures. The Soviet Union is interested in reliable verification of compliance with disarmament agreements no less than the United States. This country favors effective verification in all avenues of arms control to ensure that agreements reached are complied with. The Soviet Union is prepared to limit or ban any type of weapons on a reciprocal basis, given reliable verification. This is stated in the updated version of the program of the Soviet Communist Party adopted at the recent 27th congress.

REPORTAGE ON WORLDWIDE ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS

Karpov on Geneva Talks

LD241328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 24 May 86

[Interview with V. Karpov, head of the USSR delegation at the Geneva arms negotiations on nuclear and space weapons, by Radio Moscow correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev, in Switzerland; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Dmitreyev] Viktor Pavlovich, what can be said about the state of negotiations now that 2 weeks have passed since the latest round -- the fifth round -- opened?

[Karpov] Two weeks is, of course, not a great deal of time to advance negotiations to the point where they would require a different assessment. Nevertheless, the fifth round was preceeded by four rounds -- practically a year of negotiations -- and they have revealed sufficiently fully both the differences between the sides and the possibilities which in our view can be made use of for these negotiations to achieve mutually acceptable solutions, to form the basis of major solutions -- solutions that could indeed strengthen the security of both the United States and the USSR, and contribute to strengthening international security by achieving the program of nuclear disarmament advanced by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on 15 January. Stage one of that program constitutes the substance of the negotiations between the USSR and the United States on offensive strategic weapons.

[Dmitriyev] The U.S. side continues to insist that it will not give up its Strategic Defensive Initiative program.

[Karpov] Yes, and so far our U.S. partners have not been able to explain to us how implementing the SDI program, as it is called in the United States, could correspond to a solution to the problem of preventing an arms race in space.

This point is one of the agreed general aims of the negotiations. In this plane indeed there is no progress and presumably there can be none if the U.S. side continues to insist on carrying out its star wars program. A serious, fundamental amendment to the U.S. position is required here.

[Dmitriyev] Speakes, the White House representative, declared a few days ago that possibilities exist for achieving an accord on medium-range missiles in Europe in the immediate future.

[Karpov] If it was possible to reach agreement on eliminating Soviet and U.S. missiles in Europe, which forms the essence of the Soviet position -- that is how it has already been formulated in the nuclear disarmament program advanced by the USSR -- it would be a major step in the cause of strengthening European security and, of course, it would have a major effect on universal security. If White House representative Speakes has in mind the proposal that the USSR recently submitted at the negotiations in the form of a draft agreement on eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, one hopes that this is an expression of a serious attitude by the White House toward the submitted Soviet draft. However, I would not like to draw final conclusions now. Time will show how much progress can be made here in the work of agreeing on specific formulations of an agreement. The Soviet side is ready for such work. Things will depend on the U.S. side.

[Dmitriyev] I would like to clarify whether the U.S. position corresponds to the accords reached in the joint statement adopted at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting.

[Karpov] I think that in essence the United States is going for a reexamination of what was agreed to at the summit by the USSR and U.S. representatives.

[Dmitriyev] A reexamination in which direction?

[Karpov] Naturally, a reexamination in a worsening direction. That is to say, for example, if we have an accord on the necessity of preventing an arms race in space, the U.S. side is attempting to present its SDI program as a program to prevent an arms race in space, which, as the saying goes, just does not hold water. If we are talking about preventing the arms race on earth, which is a sensible objective, the United States in its position in essence does not want to adopt the sort of measures that would indeed end the arms race on earth. They want to leave loopholes, channels for continuing the race in directions which are to their advantage. Calculations to achieve one-sided military advantages over the USSR have never been justified and never will. We will take the appropriate measures to guarantee our security. But that would not be our choice. Our choice is a precise accord between the two countries on preventing the arms race in space and halting it on earth.

Grinevskiy on Stockholm Session

LD231100 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Stockholm May 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports:

The regular session of the Conference on Security- and Confidence-Building Measures, and on Disarmament in Europe ended here today. Summing up its results, Oleg Grivenskiy, head of the Soviet delegation, noted that from the point of view of urgent tasks of the European policy it is important to complete the first stage of this conference with positive results. The opportunities for this do exist and they are perfectly real given mutual aspiration to reach an accord. This, however, is what the United States and some Western countries lack.

Under all kind of far-fetched pretexts they impede the work to hammer out mutually acceptable accords, draw back from the quest for ways to come to grips with unresolved problems, which are proposed by socialist, neutral and non-aligned countries.

The success or lack of success at the Stockholm Conference is in the present-day situation a touchstone of the readiness to work not in words but in deed for scaling down the military threat on our continent. This is necessary both by its own self and for a new all-European meeting in Vienna, so as it could make a decision to pass over to the second stage of the conference devoted to disarmament in Europe. Thus, a new impetus would be given to developing the Helsinki process in all of its aspects.

The next session of the conference will begin its work on June 10.

UN Commission Ends Session

LD240634 Moscow TASS in English 0622 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] New York May 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Baybakov reports:

The annual session of the U.N. Commission on Disarmament has come to a close at the U.N. Headquarters. The function of the commission is to work out concrete recommendations for U.N. working bodies which tackle disarmament matters.

The central place on the agenda was occupied by the discussion of the problems of curbing the nuclear arms race and of achieving nuclear disarmament. The session discussed, in particular, the Soviet Union's proposals on complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, set out in the January 15 statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegations of socialist countries went to the session with a steady resolve to achieve progress on the matter, on the solution of which the very future of mankind depends, Eugeniusz Noworyta, permanent representative of Poland at the United Nations, stated on behalf of the socialist countries' group. The proposals are prompted not only by the peaceful foreign policy of socialist countries but also by the awareness that the arms race has reached a critical point which dictates the need for an utterly new political thinking and an innovatory approach to disarmament matters, the Polish delegate emphasized.

Plenary meetings and discussions in the working groups of the commission have revealed the interest of most countries in holding talks with a view to reversing the nuclear arms race and achieving complete and final elimination of nuclear weapons as soon as possible. The delegates have included a recommendation that such talks be held in the commission's annual report which they endorsed.

However, as representatives of many countries pointed out, the commission has not been able to work out practical recommendations concerning an urgent solution of the problems of disarmament and the taking of measures to prevent a nuclear catastrophe, and to end the arms race, particularly that in the nuclear field. The lack of the USA's and its Western allies' readiness to discuss practical steps in the field of disarmament is the main obstacle to that. Thus, owing to the unwillingness of the delegations of the USA and of a number of other countries, the commission failed to work out concrete recommendations on a nuclear test ban. An end to nuclear tests is the most realistic way to begin to slow down the nuclear arms race, said V.V. Shustov, deputy permanent representative of the USSR at the United Nations. The termination of tests may serve as the thread by pulling which it would be possible to untangle the knot of problems connected with the curbing of the nuclear arms race.

The Soviet Union has already three times extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, the delegate of the USSR stated. "We, however, do not suggest that only this one measure be resorted to. We are for starting talks without delay on a total nuclear test ban. But in reply, nuclear explosions are conducted one after another at the Nevada test range.

"The initiators of a further spiralling up of the arms race proclaim in words U.S. readiness to seek a reduction and even complete elimination of nuclear arms together with the Soviet Union. The latest test in Nevada shows, however, that those assurances remain only verbal declarations", the Soviet representative said.

Tbilisi Forum Reviewed

PM231330 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Special correspondent I. Ivanko dispatch: "A Future Without Wars or Weapons"]

[Text] Tbilisi -- The international UN Regional Conference on Disarmament which is being held within the framework of the World Campaign for Disarmament and the International Year of Peace opened in the sessions hall of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet on 19 May. It is being attended by more than 70 participants from 25 countries. The conference participants were greeted by O.Ye. Cherkeziya, chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers.

My interlocutor is J. Martenson, UN under secretary general and head of the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

Speaking about the role of this kind of conference, I would like to say that a peaceful future cannot, of course, be ensured by conferences alone. However, this kind of exchange of views is very informative for the public and, moreover, it is based on facts rather than emotions. This information helps to create the right political climate which is necessary for resolving disarmament questions. We have never denied that countries have a right to national security. I am confident that security at a much lower level can be achieved.

The subject of the so-called "nuclear winter" is now being discussed in many countries. How would an exchange of nuclear strikes affect the climate? Despite the fact that scientists express different opinions, most of them agree that mankind could be destroyed twice over: first, as a result of nuclear war itself, and second, as a result of its climatic consequences -- the "nuclear winter." This means that nuclear war must not take place: There will be no victors in a nuclear war -- something which -- and I would like to note this especially -- was confirmed at the Soviet-American summit in Geneva. This provides some grounds for optimism.

I interviewed Kh Gerritsman, a delegate from the Netherlands.

I deal with questions of education in the spirit of peace, and so conferences of this kind are very important for me. Exchanging views here in Tbilisi, you learn a great deal about the stances of other countries and public organizations on disarmament. This enables me to relate back home how other people view a future without wars or weapons and ways of achieving it. I am very confident that the people who have come here will strive to achieve the best possible results in the cause of disseminating the UN ideas on disarmament and thus bring nearer the future without wars or weapons to which we all aspire.

The conference continues.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT TO ISRAEL ON SDI

PM271058 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Contrary to the Interests of International Security -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The Soviet Union has issued a statement to the Israeli Government regarding the signing in Washington on 6 May 1986 of the agreement on Israel's joining in the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative."

The statement stresses that the Israeli Government cannot but know that that program is designed to spread the weapons race into outer space and turn space into a zone of military rivalries and confrontation. The plans to create a qualitatively new class of strike weapons and deploy them in outer space is a component part of the global strategy of the United States, which is striving to upset the prevailing military-strategic equilibrium and to elevate the arms race to a qualitatively new level.

It is obvious that if outer space is packed with weapons it will be a serious blow to mankind's hopes for creating an all-embracing international security system and delivering the world from nuclear weapons before the end of this century. Instead, mankind will be faced with a disastrous threat, about which the Soviet Union has warned more than once.

Complicity in the implementation of the U.S. plans for the militarization of outer space runs counter, as the Soviet Union is convinced, to the aspirations of all people, including the Israeli people.

By making its "contribution" to turning near-earth space into an arena of confrontation, the Israeli leadership thus contributes to an aggravation of general tension in the world and consequently in the Middle East. There is no doubt that along with a growth of tensions prospects for the attainment of a just Middle East settlement in the interests of all states and people involved will become even more remote.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly expressed its clear evaluation of the SDI program as that fraught with an enormous threat to mankind, as directed against a turn for the better in international affairs. Those who join in its implementation should realize the measure of their responsibility.

The Soviet side, the statement says, hopes that the Israeli Government will draw proper conclusions in favor of preventing the spreading of the arms race into outer space and strengthening universal security.

The statement to the Israeli Government was turned over through the Foreign Ministry of Finland, which represents the USSR's interests in Israel.

IZVESTIYA Condemns Ties

LD242115 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1629 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TASS) -- Tel Aviv's decision to participate in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative should be viewed as a new substantive factor in the military-political situation in the Middle East, which lends even greater acuteness to the unregulated crisis and after a fashion extends its regional boundaries, 'IZVESTIYA' writes today. Israel's involvement in the strategic programs of the United States, the newspaper comments, whips up the arms race in this region for which the selfsame Israel was one of the sources.

The new military partnership with the United States evidently rouses the aggression o the Israeli military. It is no coincidence that precisely after announcing its participation in SDI, Israel sharply intensified the campaign of threats and blackm with respect to Syria to the approving accompaniment of Washington and London.

However, no references to the regional situation can hide the important fact that Tel Aviv's involvement in the implementation of the "star wars" program goes far beyond the boundaries of the realities of the Middle East. It means that Israel is becoming a participant in the global plans of the U.S. Administration and its nearest NATO partners, 'IZVESTIYA' stresses.

The decision of the Tel Aviv government to become a participant in SDI logically flows from the spirit and the imperatives of the American-Israeli strategic alliance. In other words, Washington believes that the time has come for Israel to pay for American aid. The United States, encouraging Israel's regional ambitions, is clearly interested in bringing Israel into the orbit of a global anti-Soviet strategy. However, the newspaper writes, for the Israeli leaders to blindly follow the imperious course of Washington will neither strengthen Israel's security nor will it bring political dividends. Through their decision, the Israeli leaders are deepening the abyss of enmity and confrontation dividing it from its Arab neighbors, and are complicating its international positions.

JAPANESE ROLE IN SDI VIOLATES TREATY

PM211342 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel D. Belskiy article under the rubric "The Facts Expose": "Dangerous Trajectory"]

[Text] The foreign press reports that Washington is harboring plans for some kind of "regional defense initiative" aimed at creating an antimissile defense with space-based elements in the Far East. By all accounts the "regional defense initiative" has been thought up as one of the options for implementing the plans to include Japan in the U.S. "star wars" program.

Washington has been harboring these plans for a long time. For more than 3 years a special "working group on international cooperation among industrial firms in the arms sphere," which is subordinate to the deputy defense secretary for research and design work and equipment, has existed under the U.S. Defense Department scientific and technical council. During 1983-85, its experts studied questions in Japan linked with obtaining the latest technology and expanding U.S.-Japanese scientific and technical cooperation.

A year ago, the Pentagon gave Japan a list that included around 50 types of equipment and modern technology the U.S. Defense Department is interested in obtaining. This list includes apparatus for detecting missiles in flight, lasers, fiber-optic and microwave equipment, microprocessors and infrared equipment, microcircuits for computers, computers using large integrated circuits, and much more.

It should be taken into account that the involvement of Japanese business in the implementation of SDI plans has been predetermined to a certain extent by the agreement on the exchange of advanced Japanese technology to the United States. Now, Washington is hoping to hitch Japanese industry to the U.S. military-industrial complex as strongly as the industry of certain West European NATO countries. In particular, the U.S. Administration is counting on concluding an intergovernmental agreement with Japan similar to that reached with the FRG. This agreement would regulate the procedure for including Japanese firms in research on the SDI program.

Meanwhile, U.S. military-industrial companies are having some success in establishing direct links with Japanese firms with a view to joint participation in the U.S. SDI. It is worth noting that the Japanese Government, while not yet having consented to participation in the "star wars" program, is at the same time not prevencing the country's corporations from conducting direct talks on concluding contracts to carry out certain projects within the SDI framework.

Japan's participation in the "star wars" program has been supported from the outset by those circles that linked with companies producing military output. It is well known, for instance, that exploratory work on the creation of ICBM's is being carried out by the Nissan (Dzidosya) company. The Mitsubishi, Nippon (Denki), Ishikawajima-Harima, and other company also occupy leading positions in the implementation of missile and space programs. Tempted by generous Pentagon promises, the leaders of military business and government officials linked with them are demanding, contrary to the people's will, that Japan participate as quickly as possible in the "star wars" program. It is this recommendation that is contained, in particular, in the report given to the country's government by a delegation of Japanese officials and representatives of industrial circles that visited the United States in April with a view to studying both the "star wars" program itself and the specific conditions for Japanese participation in its implementation.

Tokyo would like to present the "Japanese formula" for involvement in SDI as some kind of harmless "collaboration." They are claiming importunately that it is not a question merely of studying the "funamental opportunity for creating a defensive, nonnuclear, ABM system." However, the lasers and guidance systems for other missile-kill means already being created within the SDI framework -- and, incidentally, not without participation by Japanese firms -- are thought of in the Pentagon as part and parcel of space-strike arms and a component of the strategic forces intended for inflicting a nuclear first strike.

The SDI program envisages the utilization of the energy generated by a nuclear explosion as an integral element in space-strike weapons. The attempts to prove that x-ray lasers bear no relation to nuclear weapons seem naive. In this connection, THE JAPAN TIMES correctly wrote that the implementation of SDI would be suicidal for Japan. After all, the utilization of explosive nuclear devices forms the basis of the SDI technical concept.

Under a protocol signed last December, the United States is to obtain Japanese technology for the production of an optical guidance system for surface-to-air missiles ensuring a high strike rate. With slight modifications this system too could be used to create space weapons.

Japan's collaboration in the creation of U.S. space weapons does not accord with the spirit of the Nonproliferation Treaty to which it is a signatory. It would be a vilation of the Treaty on the Peaceful Use of Space, signed by Japan in 1967, and it contravenes its nonnuclear principles and the principles banning weapon exports.

In other words, Japan's participation in the creation of space-strike arms would attest to the country's rejection of its obligations and would show that its policy is on an extremely dangerous trajectory.

NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY REFUSES TO SUPPORT SDI

LD261735 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Luxembourg May 26 TASS -- Serious disapproval of the "star wars" program, strenuously carried on by the U.S. Administration, in the Western world has made itself feel anew today at the spring session of the North Atlantic Assembly, which has closed here.

Some 200 parliamentarians from 16 NATO countries which took part in it refused to support in the final resolution the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative." Following a vote by the overwhelming majority, a declaration of support for the "star wars" program was dropped from the text of the resolution. Most members of the delegation of U.S. Congress to the session also joined opposition to the declaration of support.

KALYAGIN REGRETS U.S. NUCLEAR ARMS RACE STANCE

LD251822 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 May 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Excerpt] When Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, in his speech on Soviet television, stated that the USSR Government had made the decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, in the White House they pretended that they had not even noticed this important step. Clearly, the U.S. Administration could not find a convincing argument to justify its reluctance to stop the nuclear arms race.

This week, the United States actually replied to the latest Soviet initiative on extending the term of the moratorium on nuclear explosions, and it did so in an habitual and challenging form -- it detonated another nuclear device.

From time to time officials in Washington recall that there exists agreement on holding another Soviet-U.S. summit meeting this year, and that the whole matter allegedly rests with Moscow. But these are mere words. In acutal fact the U.S. Administration's behavior is such as if it set itself the task of torpedoing Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the United States. For example, one cannot assess in any other way the shameful anti-Soviet campaign started in the United States in conjuction with the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

Previously the United States had tried to camouflage its refusal to stop nuclear explosions with various excuses. They referred to difficulties with verification: When we stated that any verification, including on-site inspection, would not be any problem for us, they started talking about their lagging behind; they said the USSR had already carried out a series of explosions and does not usually start new tests before spring. Well, spring, one can say, has passed, and we have not tested nuclear weapons for 9 and 1/2 months, and we are prepared to wait even until 6 August. You would think that even far-fetched arguments had been removed, but figures in the U.S. Administration are saying more and more often that to stop tests would have a negative effect on the reliability of U.S. nuclear arsenals. What, then, is the value of the White House's assurances of its desire to strive for a radical reduction in, or even the total elimination of, these arsenals?

Some U.S. observers believed that in the existing situation -- when the accident at Chernobyl demonstrated yet again what an abyss will open in the event of nuclear war, when scores of public, including U.S. organizations urged the U.S. Administration to follow the example of the Soviet Union and refrain, at least for some time, from scheduled explosions -- Washington again displayed contempt of U.S. public opinion and of the viewpoint of the international community. The U.S. Administration ignored the constructive approach of the USSR on the matter.

Mikhail Gorbachev confirmed his consent in principle to holding a new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. He noted at the same time that two simple things are required for such a meeting -- the readiness to make it yield tangible, practical results at least on one or two issues of continuing concern for the world, and a fitting political atmosphere.

However, it does not look as though the White House is striving to improve the climate in Soviet-U.S. relations. As to the search for agreements on disarmament problems, Washington is so acting in a diametrically opposite direction and is threatening to cancel the agreements siged earlier.

KASHLEV DENOUNCES WESTERN STANCES AT BERN MEETING

PM260855 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Kuznetsov report: "The Arguments of Common Sense"]

[Text] Berne -- The conference of experts on contacts between people, which began in April, is entering its decisive stage. At Berne's Bellevue Hotel, a discussion of the proposals submitted by the delegations and intensive consultations among experts to draw up the bases for a final document are taking place.

The proposals of the Soviet delegation and the delegations of the socialist countries are characterized by a realistic approach and comprehensive consideration for all the circumstances and for the development of contacts among people, institutions, and organizations from the countries with different social and political systems represented at the conference. The proposals of the USSR, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, and the other socialist countries are based strictly on the final document of Helsinki and Madrid. This businesslike approach and these practical proposals have received support in many delegations' speeches. This applies above all to the proposals on the significance of intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements, protocols, and programs for exchanges in various spheres, as well as proposals relating to the development of tourism and cooperation between youth organizations and proposals on promoting the conclusion of agreements concerning consular, legal, and medical assistance.

The Soviet delegation, Yu.B. Kashlev stressed in his speech, advocates that all the members of the delegations set themselves realistic tasks. He criticized the proposals of a number of Western countries that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and are basically aimed at revising it. These proposals include those which, in the guise of developing contacts between administrations and public organizations (to which, of course, the Soviet delegation does not and cannot have any objection), the idea is pursued of encouraging illegal and in a number of cases unconstitutional activity by all kinds of imposters who represent nobody but themselves. Some proposals put forward propositions aimed at undermining the right of each participating state to establish its own laws and administrative rules.

In conclusion, the Soviet representative called for the intensification of the conference's work in order to ensure a positive outcome of the Berne meeting.

ADN REPORT ON CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMMUNIQUE

LD231008 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0741 GMT 23 May 86

["Communique on the 119th session of the CEMA Executive Committee" -- ADN headline]

[Text] Moscow, 22 May (ADN) -- The CEMA Executive Committee's 119th session took place in Moscow 20-22 May 1986. Participating in the session were the following Executive Committee representatives: Deputy Premiers Andrey Lukanov, People's Republic of Bulgaria; Jozsef Marjai, Hungarian People's Republic; Tran Quynh, the SRV; Guenther Kleiber, the GDR; Antonio Esquivel, Republic of Cuba; Myatavyn Peljee, the Mongolian People's Republic; Wladyslaw Gwiazda, Polish People's Republic; Ioan Totu, Socialist Republic of Romania; Aleksey Antonov, the USSR; Rudolf Rohlicek, CSSR, and CEMA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev.

In accordance with the agreement between CEMA and the SFRY Government, Mito Pejovski, SFRY Federal Executive Council member and permanent SFRY representative at CEMA, took part in the Executive Committee session.

The Chair was occupied by Ioan Totu, representative of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The discussion centered on preparations for the next CEMA session.

The CEMA representatives discussed the status of work performed in the council toward fulfilling the resolutions of the 1984 Moscow economic summit. They further targeted efforts to be undertaken to implement the comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technological Progress of the CEMA Countries by the Year 2000 punctually and completely. With this, an important contribution will be made to the fulfillment of the strategic tasks set by the party congresses of the fraternally allied communist and workers parties.

In agreement with the statements of leading representatives of the fraternal parties, the Executive Committee considers it important to work out further steps for the fundamental perfection of the CEMA countries' multilateral cooperation and for the council's activities.

The Executive Committee approved a report on the results of the coordination of the economic plans 1986-1990, as well as the draft program for the construction of nuclear power stations and atomic heat supply stations in CEMA countries until the year 2000.

The reports and proposals on these questions will be presented to a future session of the council. To fulfill the resolutions of the economic discussions at the highest level, the Executive Committee further discussed questions of cooperation. Particular attention was paid to the creation of favorable economic, organizational, and juridical conditions for the accelerated development of progressive forms of cooperation, such as the extension of comprehensive cooperation relationships, the formation of joint associations and enterprises with economic accounting, the development of direct relations between production enterprises and scientific-technical institutions, and, in particular, the tasks of the all-round program for scientific and technological progress.

The Executive Committee decided on measures to improve cooperation in the development of the standardization and activity of the international center of scientific and technical information in connection with the implementation of the comprehensive program of scientific-technical progress.

During the meeting, unanimous support was expressed for the new initiatives of the fraternal parties and fraternal countries for the strengthening of peace, halting the arms race, above all in the case of nuclear weapons, and for the creation of comprehensive system of international security, including in the economic sense.

The unswerving course toward the development of mutually-advantageous all-European cooperation, including the establishment of official relations between CEMA and individual CEMA countries and the EC, was also underlined.

During the CEMA Executive Committee is 119th session, CEMA representatives were informed in detail by the Soviets about the present situation and measures to eliminate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. The participants at the meeting expressed their sympathy to the Soviet people in connection with the accident. They expresses satisfaction with the effective measures taken by the Soviet Government to eliminate the accident's consequences. They unanimously supported the proposals submitted by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 14 May 1986 for the establishment of an international system for the safe development of nuclear energy on the basis of close cooperation among all states engaged in it.

The actions of states and countries that are setting up barriers to the normal development of East-West trade and economic relations under false pretexts were condemned.

The Executive Committee session was held in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely cooperation.

CEMA OFFICIALS BRIEFED ON CHERNOBYL AFTERMATH

LD222318 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- At the 119th meeting of the CEMA Executive Committee, representatives of the CEMA member countries were briefed in detail by the Soviet side on the situation and measures taken to eliminate the results of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. The participants in the meeting expressed sympathy with the Soviet people over the accident and satisfaction with the effective measures being carried out by the Soviet Government to eliminate its consequences. They expressed unanimous support for the proposals put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the creation of an international regime for safe development of nuclear power engineering on the basis of close cooperation of all states developing that industry.

The inadmissibility was stressed of the actions by the countries and organisations, which are using far-fetched pretexts to put up obstacles in the way of a normal development of east-west trade and economic cooperation.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS IAEA SPECIAL SESSION IN VIENNA

PM231149 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Joint Efforts Needed"]

[Text] Vienna, 22 May -- A special session of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has taken place in Vienna, devoted to questions of developing international cooperation in ensuring nuclear security.

B.A. Semenov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, stated that the accident at the Chernobyl AES, like accidents at AES' in a number of other countries, poses extremely important questions for all states, questions that require a responsible attitude. The Soviet Union proposes the implementation now of a number of concrete steps, first and foremost steps to substantially strengthen cooperation within the IAEA framework. These proposals were made on 14 May this year in the Soviet television appearance by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

These proposals provide for the creation of an international mechanism for the safe development of the nuclear power industry on basis of close cooperation among all states involved in atomic energy and the establishment under this mechanism of a system for prompt notification and provision of information in the event of accidents or failures at AES' especially when they entail an escape of radioactivity. It is also necessary to establish international machinery on both a bilateral and multilational basis with a view to providing the speediest mutual assistance when dangerous situations arise. These questions could be suitably resolved, for instance, in the form of international agreements or conventions. In order to discuss this whole range of questions it would be justified to convene a high-level special international conference in Vienna under IAEA auspices.

The Soviet Union is in favor of increasing the IAEA's role and potential, and in particular strengthening its functions concerning the reliability and safety of the development of nuclear power industry in light of its present level of development, and is prepared to work toward this. The United Nations and its specialized institutions like the WHO and UNEP [UN Environment Program] must be involved more actively in measures to ensure the safe development of peaceful nuclear activity. These constructive proposals by the USSR met with broad support at the board session.

The Soviet representative went on to stress that alongside the problems of the peaceful atom, the problems of the military atom also exist. The Chernobyl accident once again highlighted the gaping abyss that will open up if a nuclear war strikes mankind. The Soviet Union set an example of a constructive apporach by announcing the decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. The USSR has again called on the United States with the utmost seriousness to consider the extent of the danger hanging over mankind and heed the opinion of the world community.

The nuclear age demands a pooling of efforts of the states of various social systems for the sake of ending the arms race and radically improving the world political climate. All people of the earth will gain from this.

EEC FOCUSING CHERNOBYL PROPAGANDA ON POLAND

LD241601 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1240 GMT 24 May 86

[From the "Community" program presented by Political Observer Igor Sinitsin]

[Text] As is known, Poland belongs to those countries against whom provocative activities are being waged particularly actively in the West. Any occasion is used for attacks on our community. And now, in connection with the accident in Chernobyl, the streams are positively raining down on Poland and other socialist countries -- real waterfalls of anticommunist propaganda, and not just propaganda. As if by command, traditional methods have also been brought into force so as to undermine international trade.

The EEC Council of Ministers, at the level of foreign ministers, has decided to halt the importation of certain agricultural products from European socialist countries. Their supposed increased radioactivity has been selected as the pretext. Certain Western politicians, in fanning sensationalism over Chernobyl, are, it can be said, chasing after four hares at once. First, they want to undermine the economy, or at least its agrarian export sector, in European socialist countries and, to worsen the positions of socialist countries in the European markets; second, to sow the seeds of political mistrust toward the socialist world as a whole; third, to drive a wedge into our relations; and fourth, at the expense of partners in the East, they hope to alleviate the sharpness of the trade conflict that has become exacerbated at this very time between the United States and Western Europe in the agricultural area.

The discrimination against exporters from CEMA countries is not well-founded on any kind of scientific or technical reasoning. It is political saborage, and that is how it was described by the Bulgarian newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO. The newspaper notes: The anxiety being shown in the West about radioactive pollution is pure demagogy.

The authors of the new provocative campaign against socialist countries are not interested in the objective resolutions of such authoritative international bodies as the IAEA or the consultative conference of the WHO. Their documents point out bluntly that a ban on imports of foodstuffs from European socialist countries is utterly groundless.

The fact that 3,000 checks carried out up to 15 May have shown a total absence of radioactive contamination of foodstuffs also remains unnoticed. The following picture emerges: Having become entangled in protectionism and in countermeasures between the EEC and the United States, certain countries in Western Europe, at times not thinking, approve any kind of limitations, albeit temporary, on imports from any country not belonging to the EEC. In such a policy it is very worrying that it goes against possibilities for developing relations between CEMA and the EEC and hinders the improvement of the climate of trust and cooperation in Europe.

At the moment they seem to be starting to remove certain limitations but they accompany this with reservations that vegetables and fruits need to be washed before eating. Kindly tell me what normal person immediately shoves into his mouth berries, cucumbers, or other gifts of the earth brought from the store or from the market?

Thousands of kilometers separate certain countries of the community from each other but we live with common concerns and at times resolve the same questions. We help each other in brotherly fashion.

MORE ON FOREIGN DIPLOMATS' VISIT TO UKRAINE

PM231045 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 May 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Special correspondent Andrey Pralnikov report: "With Their Own Eyes"]

[Text] At the request of heads of diplomatic missions of foreign states accredited to Moscow, the USSR Foreign Ministry organized a trip to the Ukraine for them to familiarize themselves with the progress of operations to eliminate the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

A.P. Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, gave the diplomats a detailed briefing on the events taking place at and around the power station. He stressed once again that the decision to evacuate those living in the 30-km zone around the Chernobyl AES was not taken because of a direct threat to the population's life and health. It was due to the desire, justified in the circumstances, to exclude any chance phenomena. All those evacuated have been housed, and an uninterrupted supply of food has been established. People are being given work retaining their former average wage as a minimum. Thousands of women and children have been given free passes for sanatoriums and rest homes and the schoolchildren from junior grades finished their studies on 15 May and are going to summer pioneer camps.

Those present at the meeting inquired: What is the reason for the discrepancy in the figures -- 92,000 evacuees and more than 220,000 people who have undergone special medical investigation? This is due to the fact that special attention is now being given to anyone consulting a doctor with a complaint about his state of health. Some 300 people have been hospitalized with a diagnosis of radiation sickness, and they do not include a single one of those who lived in the environs of the station. Only the AES workers and those who took part in eliminating the accident are in the hospital, it was stressed at the meeting.

"The number of patients is given approximately," A.Ye. Romanenko, Ukrainian SSR minister of health, explained. "Why? In some cases the diagnosis has not been confirmed, and they are now being discharged. But preventive medical work is taking place continuously."

Compared with the first few days after the accident, the radiation level over the entire territory is several times lower. The locality directly adjacent to the station is being decontaminated. In Kiev radiation did not exceed the permissible norms at all.

The next question was: What is the background radiation in Kiev today?

At 1700 hours on 21 May the radiation level was 0.18 milliroentgens an hour. (Remember: With normal radiological examination, the single dose received by the patient is between 1 and 13 roentgens. And milliroentgens, in which the background level in the Ukrainian capital is measured, are thousandth parts of a roentgen...).

Constant monitoring of the radioactive condition of the atmosphere throughout the republic has also been established. It is being carried out by 188 stationary centers, 38 mobile stations, and aircraft and helicopters equipped with modern dosimetric equipment. Every hour water samples are taken from rivers and open stretches of water. The analyses are collected three times.

The final conclusion on quality is passed to the republic's Ministry of Health. The radioactive condition of the water has never once exceeded the norm. Nonetheless additional measures have been taken: There has been an inspection of the reserve artesian wells and new ones have been drilled. Wells in rural localities have been sealed. In order to ensure that rain flow into the Dnepr and the Pripyat does not take radioactive particles from the soil surface into the rivers, barriers have been erected along their banks. Agricultural work is continuing everywhere apart from the territory of the 30-km zone. More than 800 dosimetric monitoring laboratories are monitoring the condition of the soils. Produce is inspected twice: in the fields and on arrival for trade or processing.

All these measures give a reliable guarantee of people's health even if the radiation level were higher than the existing level.

Every effort is now being made to speed up the completion of work on the damaged unit of the Chernobyl AES, but otherwise the republic and its capital are living a normal life. In the first half of May alone, some 10,000 tourists from 28 countries visited the Ukraine. The vast majority of the foreign students studying in Kiev who left the city in the first days after the accident have returned. And these 250 people are continuing their studies peacefully.

A specialized international exhibition, "Beetgrowing-86," opened in Kiev 21 May, with the participation of firms and organizations from Austria, Italy, the United States, France, Finland, the FRG, Switzerland, and other countries.

Some of the ambassadors present at the meeting asked: "Why have the medics not investigated the foreign students living in Kiev?"

"Everyone who goes to a doctor is examined," A.P. Lyashko said. "Evidently the young people you are talking about feel well. That is how it should be. But if this matter has caused concern, I will ask the republican minister of health to organize a prophylactic medical examination for all foreign students. Naturally, that means those who agree to undergo it."

One question dealt with the losses to the repbulic's national economy caused by the accident. The chairman of the Council of Ministers answered:

"I will say frankly that they are considerable. But we have not yet added up. The main thing now is to eliminate all the consequences of the accident."

The diplomats expressed their thanks for the briefing and for the opportunity to familiarize themselves with people's lives in Makarovskiy Rayon -- one of the regions which have accepted evacuees from the 30-km zone. They offered their sympathy in connection with the misfortune which has struck the republic, and expressed the hope that the consequences of the accident will be eliminated rapidly.

IZVESTIYA's special correspondent G. Charodeyev, accompanying the diplomats on the trip, asked a number of heads of diplomatic missions to give their impressions of what they saw:

Federico S. Bravo, Argentine ambassador to the USSR:

I used to be a doctor. Coming here as a doctor and as a diplomat, I can say that in the Kiev region everything possiple is being done to eliminate the consequences of the accident as quickly as possible.

We have seen people working calmly. The children are running and playing, everything all around is flowering, there is a great deal of green. Absolutely everything we saw or heard from eyewitnesses was reassuring, and for my part I am prepared to report to my government that the situation in the Kiev region has stabilized and people's lives are safe.

M. Husni Sha'ban, Libyan ambassador to the USSR:

It was very important for us to come here. Now we have our own information about the real state of affairs. Seeing is believing, as the saying goes...Now we are confident that everything possible is being done to eliminate as quickly as possible the consequences of the AES accident. I am convinced that the whole world should know the truth about this.

A.M. Yusuf al-Du'ayj, Kuwaiti ambassador to the USSR:

The situation in Chernobyl is completely under the control of the specialists. I am now sure that the Soviet Union will cope with the Chernobyl accident. And we must help in every way in this vast and difficult work.

TASS REPORTS FOREIGN STUDENTS CHERNOBYL APPEAL

LD261034 Moscow TASS in English 1021 GMT 26 May 86

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- Following is the full text of an appeal by foreign nations:

"Appeal by Foreign Nationals, Studying in the USSR, to the World Governments and Peoples

We, citizens of foreign countries studying at educational establishments in the Soviet Union, express sincere sympathy with the victims of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, their families, work collectives and all Soviet people. The accident painfully affected all mankind.

The Soviet Government immediately and openly acknowledged that a complicated, but controllable situation has developed in the Chernobyl nuclear power plant area. We daily receive objective information on the situation at the atomic power plant and in neighbouring cities. The Soviet Government immediately undertook measures for a total elimination of the consequences of the accident, and continues to take care of the health of the people in the regions of the Ukraine and Belorussia.

We, foreign students, are seeking to contribute within our powers to the noble cause by raising money for the relief fund and extending our material and moral support for the population of the affected regions.

The fact that some states use the misfortune as a political instrument cannot but give rise to indignation. The mass media in the United States and other Western countries are waging a full-blown hostile anti-Soviet campaign.

The campaign of hatred, slander and disinformation is aimed at diverting world public attention from the U.S. aggressive foreign policy, and at weakening the USSR's prestige and the impact of Soviet proposals for ending nuclear testing.

The bourgeois states also used the grievous accident as a pretext for economic pressure on the socialist community.

Some countries sought to influence their students in the USSR and recall them back home. Many of us refused to leave their educational establishments, while those who gave in to the persuasion are already returning to the Soviet Union.

Medical examination of the students studying in Kiev and other cities showed that the radiation level is not dangerous to the human organism. At present, students at higher educational establishments in Kiev and other cities are preparing for examinations. After that we will leave for practicals, and holidays to return on September 1 to our educational establishments which are training us as they trained many other specialists for our countries.

The accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant compels the governments and peoples to draw the only correct conclusion: Before it is too late, it is necessary to put an end, once and for all, to confrontation, to stop all nuclear testing, not merely in words but with deeds, and start the reduction of nuclear arsenals and their subsequent destruction.

Before it is too late, we appeal to all to join the Soviet peace initiatives and resolve at the negotiating table all the problems. The world is looking forward to that.

The National Union of Syrian students in the USSR, the Federation of Tunisian Students in the USSR, the All-Union Association of Iranian Students, the Organization of the Association of Polish Students in the USSR, the National Union of Sierra Leone Students in the USSR, the Federation of the National Union of Moroccan Students in the USSR, the Association of Venezuelan Students in the USSR, the Association of Mexican Students in the USSR, the League of Iraqi students in the USSR, the Union of Uganda Students in the USSR, the National Union of Ghanaian Students in the USSR, the Union of Nigerian Students in the USSR, the Association of Indian Students in the USSR, the Association of Bangladeshi Students in the USSR, the Confederation of Palestinian students in the USSR and the Union of YAR (Yemen Arab Republic) Students in the USSR."

DOBRYNIN WRITES ARTICLE ON ARMS RACE, DRA, OTHER ISSUES

AU231337 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 22 May 86 p 6

[Article by Anatoliy Dobrynin, CPSU Central Committee secretary: "Disarmament and Progress; the USSR's Peace Initiatives and the Developing Countries"]

[Text] In the present epoch there is no other sensible road than that of halting the nuclear arms race and of preserving and consolidating peace. The ideal of socialism is a world without arms and violence, a world in which every nation freely chooses its path of development and its way of life.

Mankind is faced with a number of complicated and difficult tasks. But there is also the highest task, namely to avert a nuclear war. Sometimes the impression is created that certain representatives of developing countries underrate this primary task, under pressure of really complicated internal problems. If one fails to avert a nuclear war, then what is the use of all the efforts in the fight for national independence and the social progress of the peoples? A halt to the arms race would enable the whole world to release immense resources, which could also be utilized in the interests of developing countries. The fight against the threat of a nuclear war is also a fight for the development of countries and peoples who have liberated themselves.

One can recall that, under conditions when attention to nuclear issues was sharper, the Soviet Government -- after weighing the circumstances connected with the security of its own people and of all mankind -- adopted the decision to extend the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests up to 6 August 1986, that means up to the date when the first atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima 41 years ago, causing hundreds of thousands of people to perish in consequence. It was the Soviet Union that submitted the proposals on a total liquidation of nuclear and chemical weapons; on the renuniciation of the creation of further means of mass destruction -- above all in space; and on the dissolution of military blocs and limitation of military budgets.

The Soviet program for consolidating peace and creating a system of international security organically contains initiatives that are aimed at achieving a political settlement of conflicts in various parts of the globe.

We attach great importance in our foreign policy to consolidating security in Asia and the Pacific area. The Soviet Government has proposed an extensive package of measures that should lead to a constructive dialogue between the states in the Asian-Pacific area and to a joint search for paths for resolving the controversial issues among them and for achieving mutually advantageous cooperation. The joint effort of all states in this broad area could in the future enable the convening of an all-Asian forum that would aid the elaboration of a reliable mechanism for all-Asian security and the establishment of zones free of nuclear and chemical arms in this area. We also suggest preparations for a conference of Pacific states on issues of security and cooperation. The Soviet Union welcomes the efforts of governments and of the peace-loving public of states in the southern part of the Pacific to create a nuclear-free zone.

The USSR firmly and consistently supports the Afghan Government's efforts to consolidate the state's sovereignty, defend the revolutionary achievements of its people, and expand the social base of progressive government. We wish success to the talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, mediated by the personal representative of the UN secretary general, which have now reached a decisive stage; and we advocate the achievement of a political settlement that would ensure the realistic conclusion of armed and any other external interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. The Soviet Union would like to withdraw the Soviet troops that are in Afghanistan at the request of its government in the nearest future. The timeframe for their gradual withdrawal as soon as such a poltical settlement is achieved has already been agreed on with the Afghan side.

We call on the international public for a new and insistent effort to reach a radical normalization and improvement of the Mideast situation. The Soviet Union is today, convinced, as it was convinced yesterday, that the road toward this does not lie in attempts to reach separate agreements, which have led the entire affair into a dangerous blind alley; it lies in the convening of an international conference under UN auspices, with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO. We are in solidarity with those who advocate the strengthening of coordination in the activity of Arab states, and the renewal of unity of the ranks of the Palestinian resistance movement on patriotic and anti-imperialist foundations.

We are devoting considerable effort to normalizing the situation in the Mediterranean, which has recently become dangerously complicated due to the activities of American Armed Forces. In the interest of transforming this area into a zone of stable peace and cooperation, the USSR has proposed the withdrawal of USSR and U.S. fleets from the Mediterranean. At the same time, our country has submitted a proposal to convene a representative conference, similar to an all-European conference, that would make it possible to study the entire complex of issues for consolidating peace in the area, including measures of trust that have already asserted themselves in world practice.

The Soviet Union's readiness to activate a collective effort to eliminate conflicts in various parts of the world also applies to southern Africa. Our country turns to the governments and public of all states, to all people of goodwill, with an appeal to mobilize forces for the support of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, the "Frontline" States, so as to aid a more rapid and just solution of the problems existing there in the interests of stability and a firm peace.

The USSR consistently acts in support of the legitimate demands of the developing countries to rebuild international economic relations on just and democratic foundations. Economic decolonialization and the normalization of international economic relations would be definitely aided by the convening of a world congress on issues of economic security. In its economic and scientific-technical relations with the developing countries, the Soviet Union proceeds from the principles of equal rights, mutual advantage, and respect for the partners' interests.

From the viewpoint of principles, goals, and contents, this cooperation represents a new brand of international economic relations, which stands in opposition to the system of exploitation of these countries by supranational companies and which consolidates the positions of young states in the fight against neocolonialism. This cooperation is multifaceted, it encompasses various spheres, and it helps the young states to build an independent economy and to promote their culture, as well as to prudently train their own cadres. The number of developing countries with which the USSR cooperates on the basis of interstate treaties has increased from 18 in 1960 to 70 in 1986. More than 2,100 industrial enterprises, electric power plants, and agricultural and other facilities have been built in the developing countries in cooperation with our country. Currently the construction of more than 1,200 plants is either under way or being prepared. We are firmly convinced that the principle of "arms instead of progress," foisted on countries by militarism, must be replaced by the principle "through disarmament to progress." It is particularly toward this end that the Soviet Union's proposals on limiting military budgets and on transferring a part of the released means to aid the developing countries are oriented.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES RSA AGGRESSION

LD230707 Moscow TASS in English 0647 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] New York, May 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev reports:

The U.N. Security Council's meeting, which was urgently convened at Senegal's request, has begun to discuss South Africa's bandit attack on Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The aggression against the three African countries has shown, stated Massamba Sarre, permanent representative of Senegal at the United Nations, that Pretoria persists in pursuing the policy of apartheid inside the country and in destabliising the situation in neighbouring countries. But a continuation of such course by it is possible only in the conditions of the lack of the international community's drastic measures to put a stop to it. Africa demands the application of global mandatory sanctions against the Republic of South Africa [RSA] so that the south of the continent could become a zone of peace.

The responsibility of the Western patrons of the regime of apartheid was pointed out by Joel Ngo, representative of Zambia which had been subjected to a bandit aggression.

"We have heard talk about 'merits' of the policy of 'constructive engagement' many times", he said. "We now see what the policy leads to: To the killing of innocent men, women and children". "Friends of the Republic of South Africa, including those among permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, should answer for the crimes of the inhuman regime, since their inaction and their military, economic and political support encourages the Republic of South Africa to killings, tortures, humiliations, and attacks on neighbours", the Zambian delegate stated.

Natarajan Krishnan, permanent representative of India at the United Nations, has suggested that the allies of Pretoria cease "shedding crocodile tears over the growth of violence in the Republic of South Africa", which they are responsible for together with the regime of apartheid. The U.S. policy and its cooperation with the Republic of South Africa encourages the racists to aggressions against neighbouring countries, pointed out Wilbert Chagula, permanent representative of Tanzania at the United Nations, who spoke on behalf of the African countries' group. "This is an affront and a challenge to the whole of Africa. The U.N. General Assembly, an overwhelming majority of the members of the international community demand the application of mandatory and all-embracing sanctions against the Republic of South Africa", pointed out Joseph Garba, chairman of the U.N. special committee against apartheid. "The U.N. Security Council should heed these demands".

As far as the "condemnation" of South Africa, which its closest Western patrons had to resort to in words, is concerned, Joseph Garba pointed out with bitter irony, even Pretoria leaders described it as "hypocritical".

The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned countries, at a meeting urgently convened at the U.N. headquareters on Thursday, wrathfully condemned the latest act of state terrorism by the Republic of South Africa. A communique adopted at the bureau's meeting emphasised the need for the U.N. Security Council to take effective measures to remove the threat to peace and security, the threat which had been brought about as a result of South Africa's aggression, and to apply all-embracing mandatory sanctions against South Africa in accordance with the U.N. Charter.

That the international community has no other way was confirmed once again by the impudent speech made in the U.N. Security Council by the representative of the racist regime, who threatened African countries with new attacks which South Africa would not hesitate to resort to if it deemed necessary.

TASS Notes U.S., UK Veto

LD240425 Moscow TASS in English 0420 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] New York, May 24 TASS -- The United States and Britain, by having resorted to veto in the U.N. Security Council, have once again appeared before the whole world as the inspirers of state terrorism, as patrons and inciters of the bandit regime of the Republic of South Africa [RSA]. They frustrated the passage of a resolution condemning Pretoria for the recent armed raids on Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

A draft resolution sponsored by the nonaligned countries' group pointed out that the policy and actions of the racist regime posed a threat to international peace and security. It was suggested that the U.N. Security Council apply economic and other sanctions against Pretoria as an effective means to struggle against the system of apartheid and to ensure peace and stability in the south of Africa.

By their actions Washington and London only confirmed the conviction expressed in the document that the system of apartheid is being encouraged and kept intact by political and economic support which South Africa's racist regime receives from some countries.

Chernyshev Assesses Vote

LD241033 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] New York May 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev reports:

The USA and Britain have again appeared in front of the whole world as inspirors of state-sponsored terrorism, as patrons of the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa. They have vetoed the U.N. Security Council resolution strongly condemning Pretoria for the recent armed attacks on Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The draft resolution of the group of nonaligned countries, for which 12 countries voted (France abstained), pointed out that the policy of the racist state creates a threat to international peace and security.

The Security Council was advised to impose economic and other sanctions against Pretoria as an effective means of combatting the apartheid system and ensuring peace and stability in southern Africa. By their move Washington and London have reaffirmed the conviction expressed in the document that the apartheid system stays only because of the political and economic support for the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa by some countries.

As was pointed out in the course of the debate by almost all speakers, (?the racist) aggression is a crime not only against the three "Frontline States", but also against peace and security all over the world. Those who give military, economic and diplomatic support for the Pretoria regime in the spirit of the ill-famed "constructive engagement", who protect it from sanctions, set for it an example of terrorism elevated to the status of state policy. This was pointed out at the Security Council by representatives of Bulgaria, Cuba, the GDR, Iran and many other countries.

Sharifuddin Pirzada, secreatry-general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, speaking yesterday at the meeting of the Security Council, strongly condemned the Western suporters of the apartheid regime of Pretoria.

He said that their desire to reap the profits of exploitation of the manpower and resources in South Africa seems far stronger than their outputings in support of human rights and their condemnation of terrorism. The "great defenders" of human rights and "civilized behavior" fall strangely silent when it comes to Pretoria's uncivilized policies and conduct, he stressed.

The bombing of Libya by the United States, has undoubtedly encouraged the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa to stepping up acts of aggression, said Zambia's representative Joel Ngo. We are again witnessing state terrorism at its worst, he said.

In the south of the African Continent, the racists and imperialists expect to give battle to the entire free Africa, to roll back the process of national emancipation, and to launch a counterattack with the aims of asserting their neocolonialist domination, stated Vladimir Shustov, representative of the USSR. There is a direct connection between the aggressive actions of the Pretoria racists and the similiar-in-style-and-methods actions of their patrons on the other side of the Atlantic.

The U.S. Administration's policy of state-backed terrorism serves as an example to the South African regime which has been declared in the White House to be an "historical ally" of the USA. At a time when the Republic of South Africa delivers one aggressive strike after another against "Frontline" States, the USA gives a 'red carpet' treatment to Josan Savimbi in Washington and steps up aid to anti-government groupings operating in the territories of Angola and Mozambique.

Those coordinated actions are part and parcel of the policy of "constructive engagement". The imperialist powers connive at the outrages of the Republic of South Africa. They try to block the African countries' striving freely to pursue their policies without interference from the outside and to consolidate their efforts aimed at overcoming the acute socio-economic and political problems inherited from the colonial past, the representative of the USSR said.

No wonder that in the U.N. Security Council, too, as many members of the international community noted, the speeches of the delegations of the USA and of the Republic of South Africa were surprisingly similar in both content and spirit. U.S. representatives took the floor four times. In order to distract attention, they read out the White House statement with hypocritical 'condemnation' of Pretoria.

At the same time they also resorted to almost invectives when speaking about 'unwelcome' countries and to a direct intimidation of the developing countries, including Zambia which 'dared' criticize the policy of 'constructive engagement'. The U.S. delegate openly threatened the victim of the aggression and the African countries which share its point of view with 'drawing conclusions'.

The USA's and Britain's veto at the U.N. Security Council has given rise to indignation in the international community. Washington's and London's stand can be regarded only as an encouragement of the South African racists to new attacks on neighbouring countries and to a continuation of attempts at destabilizing the situation in the south of our continent, Isack Mudenge, representative of Zimbabwe, has said in an interview with the TASS correspondent after the meeting. Washington's and London's actions at the U.N. Security Council, said Martin Adouki, permanent representative of the Congo at the United Nations, directly encourage the racist regime to a continuation of its criminal policy and to perpetuation of apartheid.

Kudrin Comments

LD242048 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 May 86

[Commentary by Political Observer Igor Kudrin -- from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] What has happened should in fact have been expected: At an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council, the United States and Britain prevented a resolution condemning the RSA's armed attacks on Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe from being passed. In essence Washington and London have yet again supported the racists, forgiving them their latest crime. And yet shortly before the voting, the White House widely proclaimed dry words of condemnation. Its indignation was artificial, prompted by wide protests throughout the world, including the United States itself. Forty prominent congressmen demanded an end to the constructive engagement policy with the racists and the imposition of tough economic sanctions against the diabolical system of apartheid, as Senator Edward Kennedy called it. But what measures, what punishment can there be if official Washington finds itself in a delicate situation?

For the crime by the racists immediately reminded the international community about the U.S. Air Force raids on Libya in April.

The RSA rulers are openly saying that it was the United States that gave them an example of how to fight international terrorism. This was just our first installment, Botha, the head of the regime, added. The word installment was not at all chosen by accident. It indicates the RSA contribution to overall U.S. strategic interests in Africa. On 22 May already the South African Army invaded Angolan territory, so the U.S. Administration was forced to defend the racists. The RSA Government is making a certain amount of progress and certain changes. Imposing sanctions, therefore, is not a solution to the problem. Those are the words of a representative of the White House. But, of course, there is no progress and no changes taking place in that sanctuary of racism. As far as sanctions are concerned, they are opposed not only by Washington, but also by London and a number of other capitalist countries. Evidently both the system reigning inside the RSA and the regime's foreign policy aimed at intimidating its neighbors are to the liking of certain people in the West.

USSR, UKRAINIAN, BELORUSSIAN GROUPS DEPART FOR UN SESSION

LD251033 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0955 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 25 May (TASS) — A USSR delegation led by Yuriy Vorontsov, USSR deputy foreign affairs minister; a Belorussian SSR delegation, led by Vladimir Mikulich, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and a Ukrainian SSR delegation led by Mikhail Puchuzhkin, Ukrainian SSR permanent representative attached to the USSR Council of Ministers; left Moscow for New York today for a special session at the UN General Assembly to examine the critical economic situation in Africa.

NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY SESSION OPENS IN LUXEMBOURG

LD232218 Moscow TASS in English 2206 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Luxembourg May 23 TASS -- A regular session of the consultative parliamentary body of the NATO member countries, the North Atlantic Assembly, opened in the capital of Luxembourg today. The session is held immediately after the meetings of the leading military bodies of the alliance that ended in Brussels and prior to a session of the NATO council at the level of foreign ministers to be held next week in Halifax, Canada.

The participants in the session, some 200 parliamentarians from 16 countries, will discuss questions connected with the international situation, East-West relations, the state of things at the talks on nuclear and space arms. Special place in the debates at the forum will be held by problems of transatlantic relations that aggravated sharply.

The local newspaper "LE REPUBLICAIN LORRAIN" stressed that the present meeting of the parliamentarians of NATO countries is held at a time of acute tension in relations between the United States and Western Europe. The existence of this tension was confirmed by leaders of the committees of the North-Atlantic Assembly who addressed a press conference here today.

Chairman of the Economic Committee Robert McLindle accused the Reagan administration of marked protectionism in trade with Western Europe, of stirring up trade wars with the Common Market.

He said that economic tension leads to conflicts in the political and military spheres and noted that differences with the United States apply also to matters of trade with the East. There are objections in Western Europe to Washington's restrictions on the development of trade with socialist countries. He stressed that transatlantic tension will persist until the United States gives up narrowly egoistic stand and begins showing understanding for legitimate interests of other countries.

Chairman of the Special Subcommittee on Arms Control John Cartwright admitted that transatlantic conflicts in the military sphere are caused, specifically, by Washington's persistence with the implementation of the star wars programme which might carry into an impasse the talks on disarmament, by the United States plans to start the production of binary weapons.

MOSCOW CONFERENCE WRITES LETTER TO U.S. PRESIDENT

LD232034 Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- A round-table conference of religious leaders and experts on problems of combatting hunger, poverty and the arms race, now under way in Moscow, adopted a letter to President of the United States Ronald Reagan.

Representatives of 27 countries of the five continents -- Buddhists, Hindus, Moslems and Jews, Christians, as well as secular experts urged the President to take steps to turn humanity back from its irrational, suicidal arms race, to rid the world of all nuclear weapons, to stop all nuclear tests and to keep space free from weapons. They pointed to the need to take the road to make sure that science and technology serve the good of the world rather than be used for the annihilation of people and all life, that the international financing system does not exploit the poor, but be put at the service of the needs of the hungry and the oppressed of the world.

The participants in the conference urge President Reagan not to weaken the U.N. system but to support it and to promote respect for international law.

Representatives of the religious circles call on the President to promote the efforts that nations should live in peace and be free to develop their own systems and ways of development and living. They express the conviction that an active policy of real peace, rather than one of using military strength to police the world, will make America truly great.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD240921 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 23 May 86

["International Situation: Questions and Answers" program presented by Vladimir Pasko, commentator for All-Union Radio, with Vitaliy Yakovlevich Chukseyev, chief editor of foreign information for TASS; Anatoliy Doronin, correspondent for East Africa; Vlacheslav Vladimirovich Sychev, general secretary of CEMA; Sergey Pravdin, correspondent in Ulaanbaatar; Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, not further identified; Pavel Kasparov, correspondent in Paris]

[Excerpts]

Letters on Chernobyl

[Pasko] Hello, comrades! We are continuing to receive letters connected with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. Many are asking if they can help in some way to eliminate the consequences of the accident. I cannot reply individually to all letters, but I can cover the main point: For those who want to send donations to the victims aid fund, I can tell you that checks should be made out to the Moscow account of the Executive Committee for the Association of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies.

Its number is 700-624. Or they can be sent directly to Kiev, Account No 904.

The accident has deeply concerned people, and, let me add, not only Soviet people. This is shown by the letters being received by the radio from foreign listeners expressing sincere sympathy with us. No less emotion has been aroused by the dirty attempts of the West to make use of what has happened for its own political ends. What sort of politicians are they, writes, for instance, Comrade Sazonov of Engels, who can only see in the accident an excuse to evade our proposals on nuclear disarmament, when, in fact it is a graphic illustration of how urgently necessary they are! This was in effect confirmed by the U.S. specialists who are in our country at this time. The same feelings were expressed in a letter from Artem Ivanovich Boedyeko of Gorkiy, who asks if there are forces in the United States capable of standing against the course of the present administration, and in a letter from Comrade Malenchikov of Borovichi. Borovichi asks what measures are being taken by the Soviet Union to maintain a military balance in a situation in which the United States does not want to agree on the total destruction of nuclear weapons. Petr Grigoryevich Zhukovskiy, from Vladivostok, asks: Why does the United States refuse to take into account the opinions of the governments and public of other countries?

U.S. Nuclear Testing

Taking part in our program today is Vitaliy Yakovlevich Chukseyev, chief editor of foreign information for TASS. I will let him speak.

[Chukseyev] You must have already heard, comrades, that on 21 May the United States conducted another nuclear weapons test. Again the earth trembled at the Nevada test site where the U.S. military is busy developing ever more up-to-date and efficient means of mass annihilation. Since the Soviet Union announced its moratorium on nuclear testing on 6 August last year, the Pentagon has carried out 11 such tests. The other day I happened to see a set of photographs of the test site in Nevada, which was distributed by ASSOCIATED PRESS. At first glance it looks like the lifeless surface of the Moon: Huge craters are scattered over the desert landscape shown in the photographs. These wounds, inflicted in Nevada by underground nuclear explosions, serve as a graphic illustration of the policy of the arms race being pursued by the United States. In this connection one cannot help but ask if Washington understands the dangerous brink the world has come to. Does the Reagan administration realize in full measure its responsibility for the fate of millions of people? Unfortunately, one can only give a negative reply to this question. Furthermore, it is glaringly apparent what a challenging position the White House is taking in giving the order to press the button at the Nevada test site only a week after the Soviet Union's latest decision to unilaterally prolong its moratorium until 6 August this year and its appeal to the United States to follow this example. This is by no means a new position.

The well-known NEW YORK TIMES observer Tom Wicker recently wrote an article containing a short chronological account of this matter.

He recalls the following, which I quote: The Soviet leader proposed the proclamation of a moratorium on 6 August 1985, the 40th anniversary of the day on which the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, and the Soviet Union observed this moratorium. President Reagan rejected such a moratorium. At the beginning of 1986 Moscow extended the moratorium until 31 March. Reagan rejected it again.

The Soviet leader proposed once again extending the period of validity of the moratorium, and the U.S. President rejected this proposal too. None of the reasons cited in this connection by the U.S. leader sounds convincing.

The creation of new and more lethal nuclear weapons, according to the observer, contradicts Reagan's own dictums that nuclear war cannot be won and that it should never be waged. And indeed, in its negative reaction to our country's appeal, as before, the administration has not taken the trouble to search for serious agruments. Attempts were also made, in the face of obvious facts, to present the Soviet moratorium as a propaganda maneuver.

Here is how Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, spoke out in connection with such absurd accusations: A few claim that the Soviet Union is doing all this for the sake of propaganda. Yes, we would also like to receive such propaganda from other countries. Unfortunately, so far we are not seeing a positive reaction to our proposal on the part of other states possessing nuclear weapons. However, regarding the essence of the extension of the period of the Soviet Union's renunciation of nuclear tests, the Indian leader stated:

We wholeheartedly welcome this decision by the Soviet Union. This step demonstrates that the USSR's attitude toward nuclear disarmament is a very serious one. The next meeting of six countries from five continents on problems of nuclear disarmament will take place on 6 August, and its participants, Gandhi said, hope that such constructive proposals will come form other nuclear powers too.

These assessments reflect the sentiments of the international community and U.S. public that our country's decision evoked. In many reactions it was noted that the U.S. refusal to join the moratorium on nuclear tests is a deviation from the joint statement at the Geneva summit meeting last autumn in which the leaders of the two great powers stress the importance of preventing any war between them -- nuclear or conventional.

[Pasko] The attempts by the Washington administration to undermine the Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty signed in June 1979, serve as another link in the same dangerous policy aimed at achieving military superiority. A number of listeners have asked us to go into greater detail as to what is now taking place in the United States concerning this treaty.

[Chukseyev] The fact of the matter is that at the end of May sea trials will start of the eighth U.S. nuclear submarine of the Trident class, which carries 24 missiles. This means that the United States will exceed the ceiling of 1,200 multiple-warhead nuclear missiles laid down by this treaty. The start of the sea trials of the new submarine will require the White House to make a decision on the dismantling of two existing submariens of the Poseidon class if the United States wants to remain within the framework of the Soviet-U.S. agreement. Such a step is being earnestly resisted by the hawks among the U.S. leadership who wish to use the situation that has come about to move ahead militarily. It is reported that Reagan will make his final decision taking into account the results of consultations with the West European allies.

In this connection, even British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, who usually supports the U.S. foreign policy line, stated: Nonobservance of the agreement would provoke a considerably greater loss of trust in the U.S. Administration than the raid on Libya. And Bettino Craxi, the chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers, as the ITALIA agency reports, expressed in a letter to Reagan his anxiety in connection with the U.S. position and called on him to keep the treaty in force. Craxi pointed to the risk to which the world will be subjected if what remains of the spirit of the Geneva meeting is somehow or other undermined by a new, more hardline U.S. attitude.

From sources in the administration, information is emerging that Reagan is inclining toward extending the period of validity of the SALT II treaty, something internal political considerations are also compelling him into doing. Recently, more than half of the members of Congress sent him a letter in which they spoke out against undermining the limitations on offensive arms. They stressed that this would, in the first place, damage the security of the United States.

However, taking into account the zigzag nature and unpredictability of the foreign policy actions of the White House, it is better to wait with the forecasts. Even if the period of the treaty's validity is extended at the end of May, the treaty will, as before, remain under threat. As the informed paper THE WASHINGTON POST reported in this connection: The limits set by this agreement could be exceeded this summer when the U.S. Air Force will arm a sufficient number of bombers with cruise missiles. Such are a few events connected with the questions being asked by the listeners of this broadcast.

In the conduct of the U.S. Administration, there are many such things that are incompatible with political morals, worsen the international atmosphere, intensify tension in Soviet-U.S. relations, and testify to the striving to continue the line toward military superiority and continuing in the arms race.

CEMA

[Pasko] Our mailbag contains a large number of letters asking about progress in the fulfillment of the decisions of the econimic summit conference of the CEMA member-countries and the extraordinary 41st CEMA session.

What has been and is being done in this area? How are things going? These questions have been sent in by, among others, Tolchev, Abdikeyev, and Aldzhigidov from Moscow; Ulitovskiy from Kishinev; and a number of other comrades. Here to answer your questions is Vyacheslav Vladmimirovich Sychev, CEMA secretary.

[Sychev] Almost 2 years have passed since the June 1984 summit-level economic conference in Moscow of the CEMA member-countries. It was a conference that defined the strategy of cooperation of the CEMA member-countries for a long period of time. It is natural that since the economic conference the activities of all bodies of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, and CEMA's entire work, have been geared to the fulfillment of the conference's decisions. First and foremost, of course, it must be said that in fulfillment of the decisions of the economic conference, an integrated program for the CEMA member-countries' scientific and technical progress up to the year 2000 was drawn up within a fairly tight deadline and adopted by the 41st extraordinary CEMA session in December of last year. It is a most important program document of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

The integrated program is aimed at tackling the main task set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the congresses of the other fraternal parties -- the task of accelerating the social and economic development of our countries. The 6 months since the adoption of the integrated program for scientific and technical progress has been full of strenuous work to implement the important tasks formulated in the program. One must also stress another very major piece of work that was carried out in 1984-1985 by the CEMA member-countries: The coordination of the national economic plans of the CEMA member-countries for the next 5-year plan, the 1986-90 5-year period, was completed. As everyone knows, during the coordination of their national economic plans, the CEMA member-countries, as we say, are coordinating their economic interaction for a long period -- for 5 years.

And it goes without saying that the coordination that has been carried out now, in the period proceeding the beginning of our latest 5-year period, has been carried out within the framework of the important decisions made by the summit-level economic conference of the CEMA member-countries. It must be said that the results of the coordination of plans were also reviewed at the recently ended session of the CEMA Executive Committee.

When we speak of coordination of the plans of the national economies of our countries for the coming 5-year period, it is necessary to stress another feature of this particular coordination: The plans for the development of the national economies of the countries for the 5-year plan, and, naturally, this has been taken into account in coordinating the plans, reflect the tasks set by the integrated program of scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000. Of course, the national plans of the CEMA member-countries provide for the necessity of ensuring the fulfillment of the tasks that are formulated by the integrated program.

Since the summit-level economic conference of the CEMA countries a number of other important decisions have been made and a number of programs adopted, such as the program for maximal economy and rational use of fuel, energy, and material resources; the program for our cooperation in the field of atomic power; and a number of other important decisions. That, I suppose, in brief, is how one could describe the work that is being done now and has been done over the past months, the past couple of years, in CEMA.

[Pasko] What are the immediate tasks?

[Sychev] At the congresses of the fraternal Communist and workers parties that have been held in the last few months, the need has been stressed to improve the work of CEMA, the necessity of raising the whole organization of our cooperation in the economic sphere and in the sphere of science and technology to a qualitatively new level. Now one of the very important tasks facing CEMA is the preparation of proposals for improving the work of CEMA.

U.S. Hostility Toward Mexico

[Pasko] Semen Pavlovich Bogomolov from Orsha asks: Why does the United States take a hostile position toward Mexico? The fact that the Reagan administration is trying to overthrow the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua is understandable, but Mexico is a bourgeois country whose government welcomes the stream of foreign capital and fosters private enterprise, he writes. What is going on here?

The answer to this letter has been prepared by my colleague, Vyacheslav Lavrentyev:

[Lavrentyev] Indeed, recently the U.S. Administration provoked a new outburst of anti-Mexican feeling in its country. In the U.S. Senate, hearings were organized at which they discussed exclusively the internal problems of Mexico. In doing so the state of affairs in this country was distorted in the most shameless way. Certain senators, with characteristic superpower chauvinism, laid down the law for this sovereign republic as if it was just another U.S. state. Senator Helms, for example, stated this: It is time to get to the bottom of affairs in Mexico. The hearings themselves were organized under the pretext that the situation in this country allegedly threatens U.S. security. What sins did the U.S. senators not accuse the Mexican authorities of! They were accused of indulging Nicaragua and not being ready to fight the underground drug trade, and having a protectionist trade policy. If one looks at the root of Mexican-U.S. relations, then it becomes clear that the Reagan administration has decided to punish Miguel de la Madrid's government for its independent foreign policy. Judge for yoursleves: Mexico, along with Argentina, India, Greece, Tanzania, and Sweden in the framework of the Delhi Declaration came out in favor of curbing the arms race and eliminating nuclear weapons. These countries were supporting the USSR initiatives made in this field. The call of these six countries to all nuclear powers put U.S. dimplomacy in an obvisouly unfavorable light and this extremely irritates Washington. Moreover, Mexico was the initiator of mediating efforts in the framework of the Contadora Group to maintain peace in Central America. The act of peace worked out by this group is directed, first and foremost, against U.S. interference in the affairs of the region. Finally, as is clear from the report on voting trends in the United Nations presented a few days ago to the U.S. Congress, Mexico comes after India among nonsocialist countries that in the majority of cases within the United Nations vote against the U.S. position. It is calculated that last year in 85.5 percent of cases the Mexican Government voted in a way that Washington would not have wanted. That is why Mexico is being attacked by its powerful northern neighbor. The Mexicans even have this proverb for the occasion: What a pity that Mexico is so far away from God and so close to the United States.

Eureka Project

[Pasko] Comrade Zhilkin from the village of Sredniy Raskhovets in Kursk Oblast asks how the comprehensive program for scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries differs from the West European Eureka in that the first is a military program whose results will show up in the civilian sphere, while the second is a civilian one whose results will show up in the military sphere.

The French Federation of Scientific-Technical Workers has stated that the implementation of this project means Europe's entry into the process of the militarization of space.

The comprehensive program for the scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000 has nothing in common with Eureka.

In adopting it the socialist countries especially noted that they are pursuing humane, peace-loving aims. They resolutely advocate the prevention of the arms race in space and its cessation on earth as well as disarmament and the widest international cooperation for the sake of an exclusively peaceful use of the revolutionary advances in science, equipment, and technology.

GROMYKO RECEIVES U.S. LAWYERS DELEGATION

LD270634 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0610 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 27 May (TASS) -- Today in the Kremlin, Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received a delegation of the Association of American Lawyers led by its president, William W. Falsgraf.

The guests arrived in Moscow yesterday at the invitation of the Association of Soviet Jurists.

PENTAGON REPORTS SUBMARINES REACH NORTH POLE

LD241011 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Washington May 24 TASS -- The Pentagon reported on Friday that three U.S. nuclear power submarines joined and surfaced in the geographical point of the North Pole on May 6.

The short statement issued by the Pentagon only says that the aim of the mission of the submarines was to collect scientific information and test the combat readiness of the submarine force in conditions of the Arctic without logistic support from the bases.

Richard Gross, a UPI correspondent, quoted unnamed spokesmen for the U.S. Navy as saying that the report on the operation was aimed at declaring in public a strengthening of the presence of U.S. strike submarines in the Arctic.

KORIONOV BERATES U.S. REACTION TO CHERNOBYL

PM230920 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 86 First Edition p 4

[PRAVDA Political Observer Vitaliy Korionov article: "Who Is Blocking the Horizons"]

[Text] The moment of truth would probably be the most accurate way to describe our times.

A very serious threat is hanging over mankind. Weapons with the power of a million Hiroshima bombs have already been stockpiled in nuclear arsenals. However, that is not enough for the militarists. The echo of nuclear explosions at the Nevada test site confirms that new types of weapons now aimed at turning space too into a theater of military operations are being tested.

It is not only new types of weapons that are being developed. At the same time the latest means of "psychological warfare" against socialism are being honed. In recent weeks the world has observed the shamefully cynical and dishonorable picture of the behavior of those circles in the United States and in certain NATO countries which set the tone for their political and propaganda machine.

The signal came from Washington. A special interdepartmental group was hurriedly set up on the President's orders. It was officially tasked with "examining questions linked with the Chernobyl AES accident." But to all intents and purposes this group, headed by Vice President G. Bush, saw its goal first and foremost as mobilizing the media to whip up a frenzied campaign of lies and slander against the USSR.

They have balked at nothing -- supplying the press, radio, and TV with the most shameless fabrications in the guise of "information," palming the media off with crude falsifications, or producing fabrications of certain "eyewitnesses" who allegedly witnesses "horrors." By all accounts, the media did not escape the appropriate "pressure." It is also well known that bribery has long been a way of life for the so-called "free press." "I am ashamed that the U.S. Administration and the 'big press' have inflated in every possible way the scale of the disaster and distorted the facts," Dzh. Steynbak, a leader of the U.S. committee to remember the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, said. "This conceals a desire to besmirch the Soviet Union, deceive Americans and distract their attention from the growing threat posed to mankind's very existence by the U.S. Administration's reckless policy." Here is the opinion of Frank Dreyzan, an ordinary American reader whose letter to the CHICAGO TRIBUNE stated: "The Soviet AES accident has demonstrated the stupidity of our press. The U.S. mass media have whipped up a hysterical campaign at a time when accuracy has been the hallmark of the Soviet press rather than our own." What is the cause of this orgy? First and foremost the fact is that U.S. ruling circles have nothing to say on the essence of the extensive constructive program for maintaining and strengthening peace put forward by the CPSU and the Soviet state. These circles do not want to stop the arms race or reach honest agreements with the Soviet Union based on the principle of equality. But they are also unable to directly admit their true intentions to the people, who are demanding the elimination of the threat of nuclear war. So they resort to malicious slander against the USSR, striving at the same time to look decent to the world public.

Furthermore, the reason is that during these current alarming days the voice of reason has been heard from Moscow. It is the Soviet leadership that has drawn the most serious conclusions from the situation that emerged when the terrible force of the atom went out of control.

The great attention that the Soviet proposals put forward in M.S. Gorbachev's 14 May speech have attracted in the world is common knowledge. The international public assessed these proposals as still further convincing evidence of the responsibility with which the Soviet Union is approaching the problems facing mankind in the nuclear age.

The international plebiscite, as it were, that has risen over these proposals shows that the forces of peace and reason view them as a logical continuation and another component of the large-scale initiatives put forward in the 15 January statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and at the 27th party congress. Whatever mountains of lies are amassed by the anti-Soviet and anticommunist speculators in connection with the Chernobyl accident, they are utterly incapable of concealing the fact that at a turning point in events, it was the USSR that proposed a range of measures capable of opening a door to a world where the atom will cease to be a sword of Damocles and will reliably serve man in his peaceful creative affairs.

Many public figures and politicians abroad have described the new Soviet proposals as a manifestation of moral political thinking consonant with the complex realities of the 20th century. "These proposals are truly impressive," Preston Truman, director of a U.S. antiwar organization, said. "They convincingly show that the Soviet Union is sincere and serious about the problem of maintaining peace and ending the arms race." "The Chernobyl AES accident, like nuclear power station accidents in other countries," Admiral C. Larocque, retired, director of the Center for Defense Information -- a Washington public organization -- notes, "are lessons not only about the use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes. They are also severe lessons in the sphere of the military use of the atom. They confirm that catastrophic incidents with nuclear weapons should by no means be ruled out either. If such an incident were to happen, where are the guarantees that it would not lead to a nuclear war? The proposals to end nuclear tests and to ensure the quickest eradication of nuclear weapons from the face of the earth are aimed at preventing such a fateful event." It is correctly said that radiation needs no passport since it can spread across any borders.

This means that its spread, when the atom goes out of control, must be prevented first and foremost by cooperation among states, irrespective of the social system to which they belong. The help given by U.S. physicians to Soviet disaster victims in the Chernobyl region is a graphic example of what relations between the two great people could be like if the U.S. leadership exhibited political wisdom and will.

But it is this wisdom and will that Washington lacks. The accident at the Soviet nuclear station has been used there to give some kind of new appearance to the already hackneyed ruckus about the "Soviet military threat." Hitherto gullible people have been scared by Soviet SS-20 missiles and tanks, now the specter of "Soviet radiation" is being used.

And although life itself has dispersed this cloud of slander, the forces hostile to socialism are nonetheless trying to derive some kind of material benefit for themselves from this provocative venture.

On 13 May, UPI carried a statement by D. Duarte, a spokesman for the U.S. Administration on questions of food and medicine quality, who noted that after many days of monitoring the quality of food imported from East European countries "no signs of contamination have been discovered." Nonetheless, the same day the "Common Market" foreign ministers rushed to adopt a resolution stopping the import of fresh vegetables, meat, and fruit from most socialist countries. Yes, the EEC interprets the principles of the Helsinki Conference Final Act in its own way! It is obvious to everyone that exclusively political motives are at the bottom of the Brussels decision. It is a new attempt to introduce a type of economic sanctions against the socialist states. The press in the socialist countries notes reasonably that the main reason for the above decision is by no means concern for people's health but "protectionism and discrimination." It is a desire to try to damage the socialist states' economies. After all, it is enough to recall that, according to figures from the Polish authorities, losses from the ban on food exports to EEC countries could amount to at least $40-45 million for Poland alone.

It is no less shameful that even in the face of new facts attesting to the terrible power of the atom, the U.S. ruling elite is continuing to crank up preparations for nuclear war. The White House has again opposed working out an accord banning nuclear tests. Washington intends to continue such tests. Just recently reports have appeared in the press that, after long resistance, the U.S. Defense Department has been forced under U.S. public pressure to issue a report on the so-called "nuclear winter." But this is a summary purely from the Pentagon viewpoint. Instead of admitting the disastrous consequences of nuclear war, which are obvious to any sensible person, the warriors from the Pentagon announced that the serious consequences of a nuclear conflict for the environment only emphasize... "the constant need to implement the Strategic Defense Initiative program"! Talking about the risk posed to mankind by the "star wars" program, K. Gottfried, physics professor at Cornell University, notes in a NEW YORK TIMES article that nuclear power stations have been working for some years and therefore definite experience has been built up, but the systems being created under the "star wars" program "can only be tested in a nuclear war." "In terms of its complexity our 'star wars' shield," Gottfried writes, "would be reminiscent of numerous nuclear power stations launched into orbit and needing to operate together as smoothly as a symphony orchestra." Only future historians, the American professor melancholically notes, will explain "how it was that the President insisted that our country chase after such a mirage." The trouble, however, is that SDI is not just a mirage but a most dangerous game that plays with the destiny of mankind.

There is one more aspect to the Washington administration's current actions. The Chernobyl AES accident is being used by Washington as a pretext to reject serious dialogue on the problems of verification [kontrol] in the disarmament sphere. The NATO fabrications that the USSR is allegedly opposed to such verification [kontrol], even though it is obvious to everyone that our country is no less interested in strict verification [kontrol] than anyone else, are common knowledge.

The USSR's crystal clear statements about its position on this question have cut the ground from under the falsifiers' feet. The world can see that the USSR is open to verification [kontrol]. Nonetheless, the enemies of disarmament are repeating their story.

They are trying their utmost to convince Westerners, particularly Americans, that the USSR is secretive and that it was allegedly late in informing the world in detail about the situation in the Chernobyl region. Toeing the White House line, the press hypocritically questions whether the Soviet Union can be trusted after this. THE WASHINGTON POST writes, not without malicious delight: "This portentous event (!) is bound to influence Americans' readiness to deal seriously with the Soviet Union". Thus, the Chernobyl accident is being exploited to gradually get U.S. public opinion accustomed to the idea that no agreements with the USSR should be pursued...

Yes, the events around the Chernobyl accident have again clearly confirmed that two types of political morality and two lines of behavior exist on questions of truly vital importance for mankind. The people have had yet another chance to see for themselves that the Soviet Union's line accords with their most treasured wishes.

U.S. EMPLOYEES IN MOSCOW ADVISED NOT TO DRINK MILK

LD262021 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL has reported a spokesman for the United States Embassy in Moscow has advised that the staffers' small children and also pregnant women should not drink local milk. Despite the fact that the qualify of milk in the Soviet capital is under routine control, the unnamed spokesman for the embassy claimed the radiation level in the Moscow milk increased following the Chernobyl accident. He admitted however that this was definitely not a dangerous level and that there was no cause for worry. Still the American diplomat maintained it was better not to drink it.

The statement apparently lacks logic. Just as apparently logic is the last thing needed by those who pursue the provocatory aim of poisoning the atmosphere and breed groundless fears.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON REPORTED U.S. ARMING OF TAIWAN

PM261317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 86 First Edition p 5

[B. Barakhta commentary on AFP report: "Arming..." -- first paragraph is AFP report]

[Text] Taipei, 20 May -- The successful testing of a new air-to-air missile with infrared guidance, made in Taiwan, was announced here at a special press conference.

[Barakhta commentary] In recent years the Kuomintang regime has been rapidly developing and modernizing the military industry. Washington by no means plays the least important role in the implementation of Taipei's militarist plans. That is in spite of the American side's commitment to gradually reduce and, in time, end deliveries of arms to the Taiwan regime. In effect, this item in the 17 August 1982 American-Chinese communique remains unfulfilled.

According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, the United States annually sells Taiwan military equipment worth more than $700 million.

Moreover, the production of modern F-SE combat aircraft, Bell helicopters, and Sidewinder guided missiles has been set up on the island on licenses from across the ocean. The Pentagon controls the production by Taiwanese plants of American models of firearms, antiaircraft and ship-borne missiles, launches, guns, tanks, and armored vehicles, as well as ammunition. As for the future of this partnership, which is dangerous to the cause of peace in the Asian-Pacific region, as Chiang Ching-kuo, head of the Kuomintang regime, confidently states, "the United States will remain our main supplier of weapons."

ALLEGED DESTRUCTION OF CHALLENGER DOCUMENTS NOTED

PM231548 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by unnamed TASS correspondent: "On the Destruction of Reports Relating to Challenger"]

[Text] Washington -- The special presidential commission investigating the circumstances of the destruction of the Challenger space shuttle has received information that certain NASA documents were destroyed after the disaster. Commission Chairman William Rogers, having officially informed the NASA leadership of this, has reported his intention to investigate these charges.

According to information reaching the commission, soon after the disaster involving Challenger, which blew up 74 seconds after lift-off on 28 January, "certain documents were thrown out or destroyed" at the Marshall Space Flight Center, including "the engineers' weekly reports on problems with the solid-fuel boosters." It is the conviction of members of the presidential commission and of a majority of specialists that it was precisely faults in the solid-fuel boosters, combined with the cold weather that set in on the eve of Challenger's launch, that were chiefly to blame for the tragedy, which took the lives of seven astronauts. An FBI special agent, according to an AP report, has already been sent to the Marshall Center in the state of Alabama to investigate the new charges.

During the hearings, which the commission conducted on 2 May, W. Rogers had already accused NASA of trying to a certain extent to conceal the problems that existed with the solid-fuel boosters and were well known. NASA now denies that any documents connected with faults in the solid-fuel boosters were destroyed. However, after the Rogers commission began studying attentively the causes which gave rise to the disaster and the situation which has taken shape in that department, facts of the persecution of the engineers who had warned of the danger of an accident received scandalous publicity.

VOTING PATTERN STUDY SHOWS U.S. 'ISOLATION' AT UN

LD220934 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 22 May 86

[By TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev]

[Text] New York May 22 TASS -- The United States has found itself in increasing isolation on the international scene. In eight in ten cases of voting at the United Nations last year the U.S. positions were directly opposite to those of the vast majority of the world's countries.

The figures, from the State Department's study of U.N. voting patterns, have been made public by Don Kasten, chairman of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations of the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

The study shows that Arab countries resolutely reject Washington's anti-Arab policy and its all-round support for the Israeli aggressor, which is part of a policy of thrusting U.S.-Israeli hegemony on the Middle East.

According to the State Department's computations, the group of Arab countries at the United Nations voted agaisnt the United States in 87.2 percent of all cases.

African nations, for their part, condemn Washington for its policy of "constructive engagement" with the criminal Pretoria regime. It is only in 15.1 percent of the cases that Washington saw as "acceptable" the way they voted.

India, leader of the Non-aligned Movement, cast its vote against the United States in 91 percent of the cases.

Washington's scheming was rebuffed also by Latin American nations whose opinion differed from the U.S. one on three in four issues discussed at the United Nations.

Discontent among its NATO partners is also a cause of growing concern to Washington.

West European countries on the whole supported the United States in only 59.2 percent of the votes at the United Nations, while Greece and Turkey opposed the United States on two in three issues put to vote.

According to the study, Washington is completely pleased by the conduct, or more precisely the lack of their own opinion, of only two countries, namely Israel and puppet Grenada whose positions are practically identical with the U.S. ones.

The State Department's calculations are further evidence that the majority of the U.N. members increasingly reject and censure the U.S. policy, which is alien to the nations, on all key problems of the times.

In Washington, however, they react to this fact in an imperial spirit typical of the incumbent administration.

Commenting in the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Operations on the State Department's findings, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Vernon Walters went to the length of making direct threats to sovereign nations, saying: "If you think that you can vote against us with impunity, that time is past."

MEXICAN BIOLOGIST EXPOSES 'BARABAROUS' U.S. EXPERIMENTS

LD250631 Moscow TASS in English 0617 GMT 25 May 86

["U.S. Barbarous Experiments Exposed" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Mexico City, May 25 TASS -- The United States, developing new and new types of chemical and bacteriological weapons, uses Latin Americans as human guinea-pigs, stated Manuel Cervin Massieu, a prominent Mexican biologist, professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Washington strategists, testing chemical substances and bacteria in Latin America, he said in an interview with "EXCELSIOR" newspaper, check on Latin American peoples the results of barbarous research which is being conducted in the United States. Mexico, the scientist emphasised, has come to feel the influence of the criminal experiments.

KAPITSA, PRC ENVOY COMMENT ON NEW CULTURAL AGREEMENT

OW270115 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1700 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] A plan for cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and China for 1986-87 was signed in Moscow 26 May. The plan is designed to develop cooperation between the two countries in science, education, culture, arts, publication, cinematography, radio and television broadcasting, public health, and sports. Signing the agreement on behalf of their respective governments were the heads of the delegations, Kapitsa, deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union; and Li Zewang, Chinese ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Deputy Foreign Minister Kapitsa said:

[Begin Kapitsa recording in Russian fading into Mandarin translation] The agreement was the fruit of realistic and constructive talks between the delegations of the two countries, and it is completely in line with (?the aim) to increase contacts between the Soviet Union and China. We hold that the development of Soviet-Chinese cultural exchanges, the improvement of the form of those exchanges, and the attachment of an increasingly varied and rich nature to them are regarded as part and parcel of the general process of improving Soviet-Chinese relations on an equal and mutually beneficial basis. A better knowledge of each other's spiritual heritage will advance rapprochement between the peoples of the two countries, which share common ideals -- those of peace, socialism, and social progress. It is of special importance to promote constructive cooperation between countries and their peoples when the survival of mankind is threatened. Despite differences of views between our two countries on a number of international issues, there are many obvious exmples showing that we can work together and develop cooperation on an equal and (?principled) basis. Utilizing the great potential of our two countries in the course of cooperation will undoubtedly be conducive to peace and stability in Asia and the world as a whole. [end recording]

In his speech, Li Zewang, head of the Chinese delegation and Chinese ambassador to the Soviet Union, said:

[Begin Li recording] As you know, the 2-year plan was based on the 1950 cultural cooperation agreement signed between the Governments of the PRC and the Soviet Union. This has proven the vitality of the agreement signed more than 3 decades ago. The 1986-87 plan was signed by the Chinese and Soviet cultural delegations in the spirit of friendship and cooperation and with a realistic attitude. While congratulations are due on the signing of the 1986-87 plan, people may note that it (?marks a new era) in the relations between our two countries. Although cultural cooperation does not fully reflect our bilateral relations, it is an important component of our relations and is often in the vanguard of developing our relations in other fields. Now I offer my best wishes that the plan will be completely and successfully fulfilled, because it is in line with the interests of both peoples. The plan has been signed, but much remains to be done between us. There is great potential in many other areas of exchanges between our two countries that await our discovery and use of them. [end recording]

The 1986-87 plan for cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and China has gone into effect. This year, Chinese art lovers will be able to watch performances by the Soviet Ukrainian State Dance Troupe and other Soviet musicians. Preparations are under way for Soviet modern art exhibitions and other cultural activities. Soviet audiences will be able to view performances by the Chinese Central Ballet Troupe and Chinese acrobats, and attend exhibitions on Chinese (?industry), edcuation, science, and arts.

These are only some of the interesting and educational activities of the 1986-87 plan for cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and China. [end recording]

MOSCOW RPP COMMENTS ON YANG DEZHI'S VISIT TO U.S.

OW241823 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0300 GMT 21 May 86

[Ivano commentary]

[Text] Yang Dezhi, chief of General Staff of the Chinese Armed Forces, has concluded his visit to the United States. In this connection, Ivanov, an Observer for this station writes:

The U.S. press has pointed out that the high-ranking Chinese military leader's visit to the United States indicates the course of the two countries' military cooperation. Washington insists that, because of increasing U.S.-China military contacts, the existing Soviet threat is reduced. Washington also maintains that strategic cooperation between the United States and China has great significance. This is also a concept based on an anti-Soviet mentality.

It is very clear that some people in the United States feel uneasy because of the improvement in Soviet-Chinese relations in recent years. This is to say that some people in the military and political circles in the United States are afraid to hear of any improvement in Soviet-Chinese relations. Of course, they will do all they can to obstruct the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations.

Expressing the view of these people, a key U.S. commentator, (Soldender), said in the 1960's that the United States would not benefit whatsoever from the monolithic Sino-Soviet unity, and that the United States should be glad if the rocklike unity disintegrates.

Whey whould Washington be so apprehensive about good Sino-Soviet relations?

Everyone knows that friendship and cooperation between the USSR and China were consolidated by the two countries' treaty of friendly alliance and cooperation signed in February 1950. Although the United States was clearly aware that the treaty did not constitute any threat to anyone of any third country, it realized that since the USSR and China were the two largest socialist countries, their mutual assistance and cooperation would be a tremendous obstacle in the way of the U.S. imperialists' aggression and hegemonist schemes.

During the 1950's, Soviet-Chinese mutual assistance and cooperation played a particularly positive role in crushing imperialists' aggression in Korea, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and other countries. Because of Sino-Soviet cooperation, U.S. imperialists were unable to strangle the young PRC with an economic, political, and military blockade. During the early and late 1950's, the United States did not dare to attack China with nuclear weapons. Here we should add that, in his writing, U.S. President Turman recalled that U.S. militarists intended to extend the Korean War into China and bomb Chinese cities with atomic bombs. He wrote: If we decided to spread the war into China, there would be Soviet retaliations because Beijing and Moscow not only were ideolgoically identical, they were also allies under a treaty.

In the past and at present, Soviet-Chinese cooperation has proved to be considerably useful in strengthening and promoting the two countries' economic growth and in consolidating world socialism. Of course, this has greatly displeased the U.S. imperialists. For this reason, the U.S. ruling clique does not want to let go any opportunity to use the nonexistent Soviet threat to frighten China and volunteer to be China's defender.

VOROTNIKOV LEADS DELEGATION ON VISIT TO MONGOLIA

Arrives at Airport

LD270509 Moscow TASS in English 0454 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 27 TASS -- A CPSU delegation headed by Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, arrived here today at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party to attend the 19th party congress.

At Buyan-Uhaa airport, the delegation was welcomed by Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural, Dumaagiyn Sodnom, member of the Political Bureau of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Mongolia, other Mongolian party and state leaders.

Batmonh Receives

LD270850 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0817 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 27 [no month as received] (TASS) -- Today Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the People's Great Hural Presidium received the CPSU delegation led by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, which has arrived to attend the 19th MPRP Congress.

At the meeting which took place in a warm, comradely atmosphere were Dumaagiyn Sodnom, member of the Politburo of the MPRP Central Committee, and chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, and other leaders of the party and state.

MPRP HOLDS ROUTINE CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

LD211332 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1000 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 21 May (TASS) -- A routine plenum of the MPRP Central Committee took place here today.

The following issues were discussed at the plenum: the report of the MPRP Central Committee to the 19th congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and further tasks; the report to the 19th MPRP Congress on draft basic guidelines for the economic and social development of Mongolia for 1986-1990; and results of the nationwide discussion of the draft basic guidelines for the economic and social development of Mongolia for 1986-1990.

Reports on these subjects by J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, and D. Sodnom, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers, were listened to.

The plenum approved the reports, confirmed the draft basic guidelines of the economic and social development of Mongolia for 1986-1990 and adopted a decision to submit these documents for consideration by the 19th MPRP Congress. Organizational issues were discussed.

The plenum elected B. Dejid, member of the Politburo of the MPRP Central Committee, secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and relieved him of the duties of chairman of the Party Control Committee at the MPRP Central Committee.

The plenum elected B. Lamjav candidate member of the Politubro of the MPRP Central Committee and confirmed him as chairman of the Party Control Committee at the MPRP Central Committee. The plenum relieved M. Dash of the duties of secretary of the MPRP Central Committee.

COMMENT ON JAPAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S UPCOMING VISIT

LD261609 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- TASS commentator Igor Anatoliyev writes:

Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe will pay an official visit to the USSR in the end of May at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The forthcoming visit was agreed, among other things, at the talks between the Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers in Tokyo last January. It should become another step towards the further invigoration of Soviet-Japanese political dialogue, which is so important to fostering trust and broadening understanding between the two neighbours.

During their Tokyo meeting, the sides voiced their intention of contributing to the further extension of trade and economic relations between the USSR and Japan. This intention is being translated into practice, which is illustrated, in particular, by the recent growth of Soviet-Japanese trade. According to Japanese statistics, the trade turnover between the USSR and Japan in January-April 1986 was 39.5 per cent higher than the figure for the same period last year. Another accord, that on raising the level of annual trade and economic consultations, has been fulfilled: The Soviet Union was represented at such consultations in Moscow last March by a deputy foreign trade minister and Japan by a deputy foreign minister.

A joint conference of the Soviet-Japanese and the Japanese-Soviet committee for economic cooperation in Moscow last April was very important for a search for new forms and areas for the development of mutually beneficial trade and economic contacts between the two countries. The representative Japanese delegation who participated in the conference was fresh evidence of the great interest displayed by Japanese businessmen in trade and economic cooperation with the Soviet Union.

All these facts testify to some progress in individual areas of Soviet-Japanese relations between the two countries. This meets the interests of the Soviet and Japanese peoples and goals of stronger peace and security in Asia and the Pacific. Yet the following point is noteworthy in this context.

During the time since the Tokyo meeting of the Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers, the Soviet Union has produced a series of initiatives for stronger universal peace. The 27th CPSU Congress launched the idea of establishing a comprehensive international security system. Though the U.S. Administration refused to enter talks on a nuclear test ban, the Soviet Union extended to August 6 this year its unilateral moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. The USSR has produced a series of proposals for stronger security and broader mutually beneficial cooperation among states of Asia and the Pacific.

These and a number of other Soviet initiatives could provide a good basis for constructive cooperation between the USSR and Japan for stronger peace in Asia and in the whole world.

Cultural Accord Possible

OW211049 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 21 May 86

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Excerpts] Tokyo, May 21 KYODO -- Foreign Ministers Shintaro Abe of Japan and Eduard A. Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union may conclude a cultural pact during Abe's visit to Moscow next week, the acting Soviet ambassador hinted Wednesday. Lyudvig A. Chizhov dropped the hint in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE which covered a wide range of topics, including the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident and a Soviet proposal for a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Hiroshima.

"In my opinion, the signing of a cultural agreement in Moscow will be possible," Chizhov, minister-counsellor, said. A Japan-Soviet joint communique, issued at the time of Shevardnadze's visit to Tokyo in January, calls for conclusion of the agreement "at the earliest possible time." The Soviets view Abe's coming trip on May 29-June 1 as "a continuation of high-level dialogue" and expect it to "improve the overall atmosphere in Soviet-Japan relations," the envoy said. But Chizhov declined to speculate on the outcome of the Abe-Shevardnadze talks on a Japanese request for permission for former Japanese residents of the Soviet-controlled northern islands to visit their ancestral graves without a visa. Japan claims sovereignty over the four islands off Hokkaido, its northernmost main island, but the Soviet Union has maintained that no "northern territories" issue exists between the two countries.

On other issues, Chizhov said that both countries share a common interest in expanding economic and trade relations and that the Soviets have told Japan they are prepared to set up joint ventures with Japanese companies.

"I am satisfied with an improvement in relations between the two countries," said Chizhov, who has been in his Tokyo post since October 1980. "But there is enough room for further progress," he added.

He said Nikolay Solovyev, the newly appointed ambassador, will arrive in Tokyo sometime after Abe's visit to Moscow. A Japanese affairs expert and former Soviet embassy staffer, the 54-year-old Solovyev is chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Second Far East Division and succeeds Petr Abrasimov, who has already left for home.

JAPANESE GOVERNOR ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD231715 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1618 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 23 May (TASS) -- Today M. Takemura, governor of the Shiga Prefecture (Japan), arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

At the airport the guest was met by Boris Kolokolov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the RSFSR, and other officials.

NAJIBULLAH INTERVIEWED ON AFGHAN SETTLEMENT

LD240955 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0903 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TASS) -- The supreme goal of our foreign policy is to give the Afghan people the opportunity to build a new life in peace and freedom. Hence the unshakable and consistent nature of the DRA's foreign policy, based on the principles of the friendship of peoples, peaceful coexistence, nonalignment and the struggle for peace and security, stated Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, answering questions from TASS Political Observer Yuriy Kornilov.

One of the most important thrusts of our foreign policy, the Afghan leader stressed, is an active effort aimed at achieving the most rapid settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, which would ensure a real halt to, and reliably guarantee the non-resumption of, the armed interference in the internal affairs of our sovereign country. It is particularly important to say this once again today when a particularly crucial stage has been reached at the talks which we are conducting with Pakistan in Geneva through a personal representative of the UN secretary general. We are convinced that a just settlement is possible. What is needed to make this possibility a reality? Just one thing: Political will and a responsible and realistic approach on the part of Pakistan and those circles of the West through whose diligence the "Afghan problem" was created.

The conversation with Comrade Najib was published today in the mass-circulation Soviet magazine OGONEK. The magazine accompanied the conversation with a photograph of the Afghan leader.

DRA PROTESTS U.S. SUPPLY OF STINGERS TO REBELS

PM231412 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 May 86 Morning Edition p 5.

[Own correspondent G. Ustinov dispatch: "Criminal Protection"]

[Text] Kabul -- The afghan public has received with indignation the news from Washington that the U.S. Senate has approved the White House decision to supply modern Stinger ground-to-air missiles to the dushman rabble.

This was the topic of a press conference held in Kabul 21 May. Addressing the assembly, DRA Civil Aviation Minister Negahban stated that the supply of Stingers to the dushmans could only be interpreted as a new manifestation of the U.S. policy of state terrorism. The action is aimed at paralyzing air communication in a country which has no railroads and transports much civilian freight by air. Afghanistan, as a member of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), resolutely protests the criminal actions by the American protectors of the Afghan counterrevolution.

Nauson, chief of the ministry's legal department, analyzed the U.S. Senate's decision from the standpoint of international law. He stressed that all the conventions concluded within the ICAO, and indeed the very creation of the organization itself, serve but a single goal -- the goal of ensuring maximum safety for civil aircraft flights. And all states belonging to the ICAO must promote the attainment of that goal in every possible way. It is their duty to condemn this criminal "aid" to the Afghan counterrevolution.

A BAKHTAR statement issued at the press conference notes that Stinger missles supplied to the Afghan counterrevolution will inevitably end up in the hands of other terrorist gangs in the Near and Middle East. The U.S. actions lead to complete disruption of the system of civil aviation flight safety and pose a direct threat to civilians on board civilian airliners.

An appeal by DRA civil pilots to civil aviators in the region was also issued at the press conference. Afghanistan's pilots call on their colleagues in neighboring countries to join in the struggle against the piratical actions which the American Administration is carrying out through the dushmans.

INCURSION INTO PAKISTANI AIRSPACE DENIED

PM231600 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "BAKHTAR Statement"]

[Text] Kabul, 23 May -- BAKHTAR has circulated the following statement in connection with Western propaganda fabrications concerning an alleged violation of Pakistani airspace by the Afghan Air Force: The Pakistani authorities announced 10 May that their Air Force had shot down one DRA Air Force fighter and damaged another above Pakistani territory near the city of Parachinar. The United States did not miss the opportunity to take advantage of the vocal campaign by Islamabad in connection with this fabricated pretext. A U.S. State Department statement expresses full support for Pakistan's stance. The mass news media in some Western countries are obviously attempting to launch yet another slander campaign hostile to Afghanistan.

BAKHTAR is authorized to state: The accusations that the DRA Air Force violated Pakistani airspace are absolutely false and groundless. What actually happened? On 17 May two DRA Air Force aircraft were damaged in the course of combat operations against gangs of Afghan counterrevolutionaires. It must be emphasized, moreover, that this happened above Afghan territory, that the two aircraft in question did not fly into Pakistani airspace, and that -- despite claims by the Pakistani authorities -- there was no combat between Afghan and Pakistani aircraft.

Such fabrications by the Pakistani authorities, picked up by the U.S. ruling circles, are hardly a surprise to anyone. They pursue the same old, now "traditional" objective -- to discredit the DRA's peace-loving policy and thus try to torpedo the process of a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

AFGHAN REFUGEES 'EXPLOITED' BY PAKISTAN

LD232148 Moscow TASS in English 2137 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Kabul May 23 TASS -- Hundreds of thousands of Afghans who found themselves abroad come to realize ever clearer that they fell for hostile propaganda and are now exploited by the Pakistani Administration and ringleaders of the Afghan counter-revolution, are drawn into bandit units. The Ziaul Haq regime is making a fast buck, parasitising on the "problem of Afghan refugees". Receiving over 250 million dollars a year from abroad for the refugees needs, and also getting direct military and other deliveries, the Pakistani Administration is using these means to strengthen its position.

The bulk of Afghans in Pakistan lives in 350 special camps, mainly shantytowns, situated in desert lands and other areas with unsuitable conditions.

They live several families into a tent. Elementary every-day conveniences and medical services are lacking. As a result of malnutrition and epidemics there is a high death rate, and particularly high child mortality in the camps. Last year alone, over 43 hundred people were dying for these reasons every three months in Khangu, Tal, Kuhut, Sada, Parachinar and Marimshah camps.

All this evokes protests among Afghans. After rioting in 20 camps near Peshawar in the summer of last year, the Ziaul Haq administration assisted by "Islamic Committees" sharply widened the practice of spotting and eliminating persons who are loyal to democratic Afghanistan. Late in 1985, the Pakistani authorities made arrests in Karamgiri, Banu, Bokikheil, Turan camps and prevented by force more than 600 families of the Momand tribe from returning to democratic Afghanistan.

Tens of thousands of letters and appeals of Afghans who landed abroad, are sent to various instances in Afghanistan. People ask to help them return home. 90 percent of Afghans staying in Kuhut, Sada, Tal Khangu, Parachinar, Miramshah camps refuse to participate in counter-revolutionary gangs and express the wish to return to Afghanistan. Some 20 hundred families joined the Baluchis and Kokars and entered their combat units that are waging the struggle against governmental Pakistani forces. More than 60 thousand people returned to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the past year.

People who returned to Afghanistan enjoy all the rights of citizens of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. A special commission headed by deputy chairman of Afghanistan's Council of Ministers Abdul Majid Sarbuland functions in Kabul for solving their problems. The demand of the Pashtun tribes that camps of Afghan counter-revolution and "Islamic committees" be removed from their lands pose a serious threat to the Pakistani authorities.

DRA TRIBES CAPTURE FOUR PAKISTANI SERVICEMEN

LD261948 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Kabul May 26 TASS -- Armed detachments of Pashtuns have blocked the main motorway in the area of Surkamar in North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan, and took prisoner four Pakistani servicemen. The action was undertaken in response to the arbitrary arrest by the authorirites of Molk Akbar Khan, a prominent representative of the tribes living in that area. The captured prisoners will remain hostages until Molk Akbar is set free, the Pashtuns said in an ultimatum sent to the Pakistani authorities.

A detachment of the Pashtun tribe volunteer corps clashed with a gang of Afghani counter-revolutionaries in the area of Atmerheil. After losing several people, the bandits were forced to lay down arms. The population of the area, incensed by the crimes perpetrated by counter-revolutionaries, warned the Pakistani authorities once again that in case the construction of camps for bandits is continued in the territory where the Pashtun tribes live all residents will take up arms.

REPORTAGE ON SPANISH PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Gonzalez 19 May Speech

PM220911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report on speech by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez in reply to USSR Council of Minister Chairman Ryzhkov's speech at 19 May Kremlin dinner under general headline "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] After expressing thanks for the friendly words, the warm reception, and the good wishes to the Spanish people, F. Gonzalez expressed pleasure at being in the capital of the great Soviet land.

In recent years, he said, relations between our countries have expanded considerably, and this is confirmed by the exchange of official visits that has taken place during this time. The official visit by the king and queen of Spain in 1984 was of particular significance for strengthening mutual understanding between our peoples and developing relations between the Soviet Union and Spain.

The prolonged estrangement between the two countries was caused by historical circumstances which are will known to everyone. Through joint efforts, we finally managed to overcome that estrangement, and this led to a strengthening of ties and better mutual acquaintance. The same objectives are served by the present visit -- the first official visit by a Spanish prime minister to the Soviet Union.

In addition to our desire to enrich bilateral relations, there is also a desire to help improve the international situation and broaden dialogue and trust between states with different political systems. You will find in me an interlocutor who is prepared to work with realism and persistence to achieve these goals.

There is no doubt that from the viewpoint of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, Spain is one of the countries where the most profound changes have taken place in the last decade. During his visit, the Spanish king had the opportunity to set forth the nature and depth of these changes, which combine domestic reforms and the international response to them.

At present Spain is living through a new democratic period of its development, characterized by a multiparty system, which is being profoundly introduced into Spanish society and is accompanied by a process of reforms and modernizations achieved thanks to the flexibility of the new system.

The end of the long period of isolation brought Spain to full integration within the framework of Western Europe, to which it belongs by virtue of conviction and geographical and historical factors. Spain has become a member of the institutions that make up this association -- the Council of Europe, the European Economic Community, and, regarding the guarantee of its security, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

This process fits in with our desire to work for the sake of friendship and cooperation with all countries. Spain has gradually normalized its relations with many states on all continents. We can now say that our diplomatic and multilateral relations have become universal.

In our opinion, the restoration and development of relations between the Soviet Union and Spain over the last 10 years serve the same goals.

In view of the fact that we began our relations in a complete lack of knowledge of each other, it must be acknowledged that tremendous successes have been achieved. Reciprocal visits have become more frequent, treaties have been signed, commercial relations and economic cooperation have been developed, and cultural and scientific and technical exchange has become possible.

Relations between our countries and peoples are becoming stronger and more cordial every day, but we cannot feel fully satisfied. It should be acknowledged that our mutual relations are still insufficiently developed. The level of economic and cultural development of our countries requires a correspondingly higher level of relations between them.

That is our main task, and the high level of our delegation accords with it. In includes senior officials from the Spanish Government and representatives of state and private commercial enterprises. We intend to work conscientiously to ensure that this visit is a major step forward in the development of our relations in all spheres.

Recently, the guest continued, there have been important events in the international arena that force mankind to choose peaceful concord or crises in various regions of the globe and threats to peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding between peoples.

Everyone received the Geneva meeting with great hope. The two great powers -- the USSR and the United States -- cannot ignore each other. The expectation of the next meeting in Geneva and the resumption of talks are encouraging new signs of the desire to achieve mutual understanding, and that must not be lost. For our part, we will make every effort to ensure that this newly resumed dialogue can continue and even become stronger, despite the difficulties that so often overshadow the international situation.

We are confident that dialogue between Eastern and Western countries can be realistic and fruitful if it is based on the following three points: disarmament, the peaceful resolution of all world conflicts, and cooperation between peoples.

The question of disarmament and arms limitation, more than any other, requires study and discussion at international forums. Without losing sight of the tasks that are tackled within the UN framework, it is quite obvious that primary attention must be devoted to talks between the USSR and the United States, the mightiest powers and on whose shoulders world responsibility rests.

The United States and the USSR advanced interesting proposals at the Geneva talks. The differences between them must not allow us to forget what is most important -- the need for decisive steps leading to the attainment of a significant limitation on thermonuclear weapons.

Spain receives with great interest any proposals aimed at limiting the arms of the main powers. Important proposals raising the question of destroying nuclear weapons over a long period lose their meaning unless a significant, interconnected disarmament takes place at the same time. Moreover, only through efforts in this direction will it be possible to avoid another increase in the arms race.

The success of disarmament talks requires an improvement in trust between the interlocutors. This can be achieved through the establishment of an appropriate system of information and communication in order to clarify any doubts about each side's intentions, and also by means of the development of a verification mechanism guaranteeing the observance of agreements achieved.

Peace must be sought not only through disarmament, but by overcoming conflicts wherever they may arise. In this sense the relaxation of tension must be regarded not as an exclusively European factor, but as a world factor, in accordance with the Final Act of the Helsinki conference.

It must be noted that the planet has had no world wars since 1945. This is to the credit of the modern international order. However, regional conflicts exist -- from Central America to central Asia, from South Africa to Indochina. Unfortunately, war remains mankind's terrible enemy. While these conflicts continue, mutual distrust between countries will not disappear.

Two of these conflicts particularly worry Spain, since they are taking place in regions with which we are closely associated -- South America and the Mediterranean.

We support with enthusiasm the processes of restoration of democracy in South American countries, and regret that they are endangered by the economic crisis. We are particularly concerned about the conflicts in Central America, whose resolution should take place within the framework of talks with the Contadora Group, which, from the viewpoint of the region's interests, is the most appropriate body for the resolution of the questions raised.

We also follow with constant attention the events in the Mediterranean, and especially those to do with North Africa and the Middle East. We are seriously concerned about terrorist actions, which disrupt stability and for which there is no justification since they lead to the stepping up of international tension. We consider it necessary to oppose this threat through international collaboration, since all of us, sooner or later, would be subjected to that danger.

It is obviously necessary to take into account the political issues that are the cause of this phenomenon. In particular, Spain beleives that it is necessary to give new momentum to the process armed at achieving a settlement of the Middle East situation on the basis of UN resolutions, in order to stop the occupation of territories and effectively guarantee the Palestinian people's true interests and the right of all states in the region, including Israel, to peaceful existence and recognized and secure borders.

A third, highly important factor in the strengthening of peace and the relaxation of international tension is cooperation among states in all spheres, including spheres associated with the implementation of human rights. Efforts in this direction must not be regarded as interference in other countries' internal affairs or attempts to set up any economic and social system as an indisputable model for other countries.

This mutual respect should make it possible to pursue a broad dialogue on all the questions in which it is possible to promote the good of our peoples. True peace is based on better mutual understanding, and that is ensured by the exchange of information and human contacts.

This is a requirement of the level of development achieved by our society and the nature of modern scientific and technical achievements, whose consequences -- positive and negative -- know no bounds, as we have had occasion to observe quite recently. All this makes us redouble our efforts to increase information exchange and contacts between the developed countries of East and West.

The conference on contacts between people, which was planned by the CSCE, is ending in Berne now. The session's results will be of great significance, since they determine the mood in which the new meeting of CSCE participants will begin in Vienna this fall.

It is not long now to the end of the Stockholm conference, from which we all expect positive results. At the same time, such principles as, for instance, the banning of the use of force in international relations must be reaffirmed and concrete measures must be adopted to strengthen confidence, without which these statements would have no meaning.

We are confident that the process that began in Helsinki has not yet ended. That European dialogue must continue until such time as on our continent Europeans feel they live in greater security.

Despite the difference between our systems, Spain and the USSR declare their desire to achieve peace throughout the world, as well as their desire to increase their citizens' well-being and carry out modernization in their countries. In relation to the USSR, that was stressed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by you yourself, at the 27th CPSU Congress.

For my part, I can assure you that our visit has the aim of making a positive contribution in the interests not only of our countries, but of the entire international community.

In conclusion, the Spanish head of government proposed a toast in honor of N.I. Ryzhkov and all those present, to the development of relations between the two countries and to a bright future for the Soviet people.

Further on Gorbachev-Gonzalez Talks

LD222204 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1130 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The Madrid weekly TIEMPO in its latest issue publishes a long report under the headline "Moscow Is Building the Biggest Embassy in Western Europe" on 25,000-meter site in the Calle Velazquez in Madrid in which it says that Mikhail Gorbachev asked Felipe Gonzalez for permission to open a military attache's office in the Soviet Embassy in Madrid during the meeting between the two leaders held recently in Moscow. According to the weekly TIEMPO, The Soviet leader's request comes in the wake of Spain's considation of its NATO membership. Soviet and Spanish architects are working on the plans for the project to which the weekly has had access and of which it has printed the facade. The facade of the building is in the neoclassical style is a mixture of the Parthenon and the so-called Nuevos Ministerios [area of Madrid housing some of the Spanish Government's ministry buildings] in Madrid.

Ryzhkov-Gonzalez Talks Comparison

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 May carries in its First Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the talks held on 20 May between Nikolay Ryzhkov, USSR Council of Ministers chairman and CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. The PRAVDA report, entitled "Soviet-Spanish Talks End," has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 21 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 8, revealing the following variation:

Last paragraph, last line in reads in PRAVDA: were summed up.

Taking part in the talks were: on the Soviet side -- G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; A.G. Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; A.I. Kachanov, first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and S.K. Romanovskiy, USSR ambassador to Spain; and on the Spanish side -- Foreign Minister F. Fernandez Ordonez; C. Solchaga, economy and finance minister; J. Solana, minister of culture and official government spokesman; and J.L. Xifra, Spanish ambassador to the USSR. (supplying additional paragraph)

Gromyko-Gonzalez Talks Comparison

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 22 May carries in its Morning Edition on page 1 a TASS report on the talks held between Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Supreme Soviet Presidium president, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez on 20 May in the Kremlin. The IZVESTIYA report, entitled "Conversation in the Kremlin" has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 21 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pp G 7-8, revealing the following variation:

Page G 8, last paragraph, last line reads in IZVESTIYA: Union and Spain.

The following took part in the conversation: on the Soviet side -- L.N. Tolkunov and A. E. Voss, chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers; T.N. Menteshashvili, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary; A.L. Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.G. Vysotin, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department chief; and S.K. Romanovskiy, USSR ambassador to Spain; and on the Spanish side -- Jose Luis Xifra, Spanish ambassador to the USSR. (supplying additional paragraph)

Shevardnadze-Ordonez Talks Comparison

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 May carries in its First Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the 20 May meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez. The PRAVDA report, entitled "Soviet-Spanish Talks End, " has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 21 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 10, revealing the following variation:

Paragraph two, last line reads in PRAVDA: and constructive atmosphere.

Questions concerning the expansion of Soviet-Spanish cultural ties and the role of cultural and artistic figures in the struggle to strengthen and maintain peace were touched on during a meeting between P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and J. Solana.

G.I. Marchuk received C. Solchaga. Questions concerning the bilateral development of scientific and technical cooperation were discussed.

A talk was held between B.I. Aristov and C. Solchaga. There was an exchange of opinions on the state of Soviet-Spanish trade and economic relations and ways of developing them. The expansion of cooperation, in both sides' opinion, will be promoted by the long-term program for the development of economic and industrial cooperation that is currently being drawn up.

The Spanish head of government laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin wall. (supplying additional paragraphs)

Document Signing Comparison

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 May carries in its First Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the signing of agreements between the USSR and Spain on 20 May. The PRAVDA report, entitle "Soviet-Spanish Talks End," has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 21 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pp G 8-9, revealing the following variation:

Page G 9, paragraph one, line one reads in PRAVDA: were Nikolay Ryzhkov, F. Gonzalez, Eduard Shevardnadze, Nikolay (adding "F. Gonzalez")

Gonzalez 21 May Press Conference

PM231130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Moscow Press Conference"]

[Text] The results of my visit to the Soviet Union are positive in all respects. I have been able to become more closely acquainted with the main aspects of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy and to see the Soviet Union's desire for fruitful dialogue, disarmament, detente, and peace. This was stated by Spanish Prime Minister F. Gonzalez at a 21 May press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists at the USSR Foreign Press Center.

The guest stressed that he had given himself two main aims: to study the possibility of achieving substantial progress in Spanish-Soviet relations in the political, economic, and cultural spheres, and to exchange opinions with the Soviet leadership on the key international problems of the day. It can be said, he noted, that these aims have been completely achieved. In this connection, I would particularly like to note the importance of my long and extremely meaningful talk with M.S. Gorbachev. The meeting with the CPSU Central Committee general secretary was not of the traditional kind [netraditsionnyy]; we asked each other many questions and spoke frankly and in detail. I reiterated my invitation to M.S. Gorbachev to visit Spain.

Both Spain and the Soviet Union are currently engaged in the important matter of economic modernization. This also opens up extensive opportunities for developing bilateral cooperation. I hope that the stay in Moscow of the Spanish entrepreneurs who accompanied me during the visit was useful. By progressively developing relations we want to make up for what has been lost.

Touching on international problems, the Spanish prime minister highlighted the need for an extensive and productive East-West dialogue and the importance of strengthening trust in links and contacts among states belonging to different sociopolitical systems.

F. Gonzalez said that given an improvement in the overall political climate, progress could be achieved in spheres such as nuclear and conventional arms reductions and the development of the all-European process. Spain, he noted, is in a seemingly privileged position from the viewpoint of disarmament problems. There are no nuclear weapons on its territory and it has no plans to acquire any -- the country does not plan to produce its own nuclear weapons and does not intend to give siting permission for foreign nuclear weapons.

A necessary element in the plan for achieving disarmament, the guest continued, is reciprocity: There can be no such thing as unilateral security; security can only be reciprocal. That is why Spain advocates maintaining military equilibrium at the lowest possible level. In this context, F. Gonzalez stressed once again the importance of strengthening trust among all states.

Spain attaches great importance to the Helsinki process. The Madrid meeting was held not so long ago. Spain has done a great deal to ensure the successful completion of the meeting. My country is in favor of progress being achieved at the Stockholm Conference. That is also important from the viewpoint of giving positive momentum to the Vienna meeting to be held this fall within the CSCE framework.

The head of the Spanish Government advocated the expansion of relations between the EEC and CEMA. This, he stressed, is an additional channel for East-West dialogue.

The guest went on to recall that his country has traditional ties with Latin American countries. For instance, this year, he said, I intend to visit Peru, Ecuador, and Cuba. F. Gonzalez expressed concern in connection with the prevailing sitaution in Central America. He stressed that the problems of Central America need settling within the framework of the region. This leader of the Spanish Government responded positively to the Contadora Group's efforts to ensure a peaceful political settlement of the region's problems.

Certain correspondents inquired whether the Moscow talks had touched on questions linked with the Chernobyl AES accident. F. Gonzalez noted that his country's government and the Spanish people expressed profound and sincere sympathy to the Soviet Union in connection with this disaster. The accident, he said, could happen in any other country and the main thing now is to draw the proper conclusions from it. We share the Soviet leadership's opinion of the need to create an international system for the safe utilization of nuclear power that would include exchanges of information.

The problems of nuclear security concern the interests of citizens of all countries. This concerns to an immeasurably greater extent the utilization of the atom for military purposes. Spain is a convinced advocate of disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, the Spanish prime minister noted.

Concluding the press conference, F. Gonzalez expressed the conviction that the results of the talks in the Soviet capital would promote a strengthening of mutual understanding between Spain and the Soviet Union in the interests of both countries and in the interests of improving the situation in Europe and worldwide.

'Sources' on Chernobyl

AU231202 Paris AFP in English 1201 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 23 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union has told visiting Spanish officials that it is ready to allow to tighter supervision of its nuclear power plants by the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Spanish diplomatic sources said here Friday.

The increased IAEA supervision would concern the design, construction and operation of nuclear power plants, the sources said, adding that Soviet officials has said that they would also be willing to give the U.N. agency information in case of accident.

The Soviet statements reportedly were made during this week's visit here by Spanish premier Felipe Gonzalez, the first Western head of government to visit the Soviet Union since the Chernobyl nuclear disaster on April 26.

Soviet authorities came under sharp international criticism for not having provided timely information about the Chernobyl accident to the Soviet people, foreign countries and the IAEA.

Minister on Transport Accord

LD212109 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- A new inter-governmental agreement between the USSR and Spain creates a firm legal base for the development of automible transportation between the two countries. The agreement was signed here on Tuesday within the framework of the official visit to the USSR by Felipe Gonzalez, chairman [as received] of the Spanish Government.

Commenting on the document, Yuriy Sukhin, minister of the automible transport of the Russian Federation, said to a TASS correspondent that the Soviet association Sovtransavto was delivering cargo to Spain from 1975.

So far, the services were irregular, and an intermediate transfer of cargo was required to be made in France. The new agreement guaranteed "door to door" cargo delivery.

The agreement would make it possible to switch a large part of foreign trade turnover to the automobile transport, the minister said. Lorries would carry from the USSR canned products, handicraft items, asbestos and other materials. The Spanish export commodities included industrial equipment, chemical and citrus fruits.

The minister said that Spain became the 20th country with which the USSR concluded an automible transport agreement. More than three hundred foreign firms were using Sovtransavto's services.

Since its foundation in 1968, Sovtransavto delivered more than ten million tons of cargo over the distance of more than 20,000 million kilometres.

Malynin Assesses Visit

LD241107 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Commentary by Moscow radio Observer Vladimir Malynin]

[Text] The first official visit to the USSR by Spanish head of government Felipe Gonzalez was without doubt a milestone in the history of our bilateral relations. During the constructive talks held in Moscow an analysis was made of pressing international subjects as well as the state of Soviet-Spanish relations.

Regarding the international agenda, the two sides agreed that the elimination of nuclear weapons and an end to the arms race are of decisive importance for bringing about a radical improvement in the world situation. The Soviet side laid particular emphasis on the need to prevent an arms race in space. The Soviet delegation stressed that the foreign policy initiatives and the proposal for a comprehensive system of international security advanced by the USSR are aimed at removing the threat of war and promoting international security.

Mindful of its responsibility for the security of its people and the whole of mankind, the Soviet Government has decided to extend the uniateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August. During his meeting with Felipe Gonzalez, USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov said that it is absolutely essential to adopt a new approach in international relations and to combine the efforts of states with different social systems to end the worldwide arms race and drastically improve the world political climate. During the talks it was acknowledged that an indispensable element of normal East-West relations is a widespread productive dialogue in the political, parliamentary, and social spheres. Both sides attached primary importance to having agreed to contribute to strengthening peace and eliminating the arms race.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez highly assessed the Soviet initiatives on disarmament, saying that they are a considerable boost to the efforts to reduce and eliminate weapons. Bearing in mind the fact that the USSR and Spain are European states, the two sides said they are in favor of an active role by Europe in the recovery and improvement of detente and for developing the process of greater security and cooperation on the European Continent.

An exchange of views on bilateral relations also took place in Moscow. The special significance of the political dialogue which contributes to increasing trust and understanding between our two countries was noted. Also of great importance is the agreement to extend the Soviet-Spanish political consultations and give them a systematic character. During the talks, great attention was paid to some aspects of economic, commerical, scientific, and technical cooperation. It was stated that organization of cooperation in industry, an increase in supplies of machinery and plants, exchange of technology, and improved exploitation of the advances made by both countries in the industrial fields that determine scientific and technical progress will contribute to strengthening such collaboration. During the talks, the organization of cooperation was agreed in several new spheres: public health, the protection of the environment, and nuclear energy safety.

During the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez, the two sides agreed on the need to extand Soviet-Spanish cooperation in the interests of both countries and Europe as a whole and in the interest of improving the world situation. They said that they are certain that the visit will act as a new stimulus for developing the political dialogue in economic and cultural relations and friendly communications between the peoples of the two countries.

The official visit by the Spanish head of government is undoubtedly of great importance to Soviet-Spanish relations. In the current complex international situation the main thing is dialogue and contact -- only in this way is it possible to seek solutions to international and other problems.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY FRG'S LAFONTAINE

Meets Dobrynin, Zagladin

PM231300 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] A meeting took place between A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and V.V. Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and O. Lafontaine [Saarland minister-president].

Some questions of the contemporary international situation, the strengthening of security and cooperation on the European Continent, and the development of relations between the CPSU and the Social Democratic Party of Germany were discussed during the conversation.

The sides expressed joint views regarding the need for effective measures to be taken by all states, aimed at curtailing the arms race, liquidating nuclear and chemical seapons and other types of mass destruction weapons, and substantially reducing conventional arms, particularly in Europe. The sides advocated development of constructive interaction between West and East in different spheres in the interests of peace and people.

Gromyko-Lafontaine Talks Comparison

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 23 May carries in its Morning Edition on page 1 a TASS report on the meeting between Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium president, and Oskar Lafontaine, Saarland minister-president, on 21 May. The IZVESTIYA report has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 22 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pp G 9-10, revealing the following variation:

Page G 10, last paragraph, last line reads in IZVESTIYA: both countries strive.

The following were present at the talks: on the Soviet side -- L.N. Tolkunov and A.E. Voss, chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers; V.G. Vysotin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department; and V.S. Rykin, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; on the West German side -- officials accompanying the Saarland minister-president on his tour of the Soviet Union and J. Kastl, FRG ambassador to the USSR. (adding additional paragraph)

Discusses Trade With Komarov

LD222305 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1608 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 22 May (TASS) -- A conversation was held today at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade between Nikolay Komarov, first deputy minister, and Oskar Lafontaine, minister-president of the Saarland (FRG) and member of the Social Democratic Party Executive. Views were exchanged on trade and economic relations between the USSR and the FRG.

Holds News Conference

LD230930 Moscow TASS in English 0901 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- Oskar Lafontaine, prime minister of Saarland, West Germany, member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, who spoke at a press conference here today, said that the purpose of his visit to the Soviet Union was to promote the development of economic relations between Saarland and the USSR. He is staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Oskar Lafontaine pointed out that along with questions connected with the development of economic cooperation, his talks with Andrey Gromyko, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and with other Soviet leaders centred round a wide range of international problems. He said that the sides had noted the identity of views on such aspects as the discontinuation of nuclear tests, the impermissibility of the transfer of the arms race to space and the creation in Europe of zones free from nuclear and chemical weapons.

The discontinuation of nuclear tests is the first step on the way of trust and disarmament, Oskar Lafontaine emphasized. Of course, any agreements in the sphere of disarmament should be subject to control. He believes that the control over nuclear tests presents no problem.

O. Lafontaine said that he had had an opportunity to express profound sympathy with the Soviet Union over the accident at the Chernobyl atomic plant. He pointed out that the feeling of compassion should be at the forefront of the international response to this misfortune. Concern over the developments in Chernobyl should have nothing in common with the unleashing of an anti-Soviet comapaign.

O. Lafontaine said that his conversations in the Soviet Union had been held in a friendly and frank atmosphere even when there exists differences on the problems discussed. He emphasized that his visit had been useful and had brought about positive results.

Comments on Chernobyl

LD231106 Hamburg DPA in German 0943 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 23 May (DPA) Saarland Minister-President Oskar Lafontaine has regretted that "so far" he has not received any information beyond that contained in press reports from the Soviet side in response to his questions about the effects of the Chernobyl reactor accident. The Social Democratic Party politician said on Friday at a press conference in Moscow that he had the impression, but "no definite information, that "it was a long while before the Soviet leadership in Moscow was informed about the real extent of the catastrophe."

Referring to Western criticism of Moscow's information policy on Chernobyl, Lafontaine said that the Soviet side's argument that "in the initial hours and days, provision for the victims took precedence over the provision of radiation levels to those thirsting for information" was right. However, he indicated that he was not against compenesation for German farmers and that the concern of mothers for their children have nothing to do with any anti-Soviet campaign.

Lafontaine, who had talks with the Soviet leadership in Moscow after a 4-day visit to the Soviet republic of Georgia, added that he had noted that Soviet concern about Chernobyl "has probably resulted in the fact that its statements concerning the use of nuclear energy have become more cautious than in previous years."

Meets Marchuk

LD242102 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1925 GMT 24 May 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, today received the minister-president of the FRG's Saarland. During the conversation there was discussion of issues relating to the activization of scientific and technical links between Soviet organizations and Saarland firms.

TOLKUNOV-LED DELEGATION ARRIVES IN FRG

PM260857 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general headline "Official Reports"]

[Text] A delegation of the USSR Parliamentary Group headed by L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, left Moscow for Bonn on 24 May to take part in the Sixth Interparliamentary Conference on Cooperation and Security in Europe. The delegation comprises USSR Supreme Soviet Deputies T.N. Bokareva, A.V. Koop, V.S. Makarenko, and V.S. Stepanov.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, and other officials.

CPSU'S GELLERT RETURNS FROM FRG 21 MAY

PM231454 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return Home"]

[Text] N.V. Gellert, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and tractor driver at Tselinograd Oblast's Amangelda Sovkhoz, returned to Moscow from the FRG 21 May. She took part in the national festival of democratic youth in the FRG as the guest of the German Communist Party.

FROLOV, DELEGATION RETURN HOME FROM FRG

PM231436 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS "Diary" report]

[Text] A USSR Union of Journalists delegation headed by KOMMUNIST Chief Editor I.T. Frolov has returned to Moscow. It had been in the FRG at the invitation of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

The delegation had meetings and discussions with statesmen and politicians, representatives of the country's business circles, and journalists. A protocol on cooperation was signed between the USSR Union of Journalists and the foundation.

VOSS, ARBATOV MEET VISITING UK PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

LD232035 Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- A delegation of the British Parliament today arrived in Moscow for an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The delegation is headed by Deputy Prime Minister, Lord President of the Privy Council, member of the Conservative Party Viscount Whitelaw.

On the delegation are Shadow Foreign Secretary, Labourite Denis Healey; Chairman of the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Conservative David Crouch; deputy leader of the opposition in the House of Lords, Labourite Lord Underhill; Deputy Chairman of the British-Soviet group of the House of Commons, Chairman of the select committee on social service, Labourite Rene Short; deputy leader of the Liberal Party and the party's spokesman on foreign affairs Alan Beith; member of the Conservative party Peter Temple-Morris; Chairman of the British-Soviet group of the House of Commons, Chairman of the Select Committee on Trade and Industry, Conservative Kenneth Warren; Secretary of the British-Soviet group of the House of Commons, Labourite James Lamond; Labourite Martin Flannery; member of the Executive Committee of the British group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Conservative Roger Sims; Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party Foreign And Commonwealth Committee, Labourite Tom Clarke; Conservative Robert Jackson; private parliamentary secretary to minister of state for foreign affairs, Conservative Tony Baldry.

The delegation was met at the airport by chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Avgust Voss, deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Georgiy Arbatov, Vladimir Terebilov, other officials.

Great Britain's Ambassador to the USSR Bryan George Cartledge was among the welcoming party.

Delegation Visits Star City

LD241238 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 24 TASS -- The British parliamentary delegation led by Lord William Whitelaw, deputy prime-minister, lord president of the Privy Council, member of the Conservative Party, made a trip to the Leonid Brezhnev Star City today. They visited the Yuriy Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center.

The guests also made a sightseeing tour of Moscow.

Lays Wreath, Visits Zagorsk

LD251945 Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS -- Today the delegation of British parliament led by Deputy Prime Minister, Lord President of the [Privy] Council, a member of the Conservative Party, the Viscount Whitelaw laid a wreath on the Grave of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin Wall. Later in the day British MPs went to the city of Zagorsk near Moscow where they toured the local historical and arts museum.

Whitelaw Delivers Thatcher Message

LD261229 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1032 GMT 26 May 86

[By Chris Moncrieff, PA Chief Political Correspondent]

[Text] Lord Whitelaw, lord president of the council, was today delivering in Moscow a personal message from Mrs Thatcher to Soviet leader Mr Gorbachev.

Dipolomatic protocol forbids the publication of the text of a message between two heads of government, but it is believed to express a desire for improved Anglo-Soviet relations.

Lord Whitelaw is visiting the Soviet Union as head of a 13-strong all-party parliamentary delegation which was hoping to see the Soviet leader in the Kremlin today.

The message is believed to express the general wish of the civilised world that President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev get together for another summit, saying that there appeared to be no insurperable difficulties in the way.

However, verification of the extent of nuclear arsenals is recognised as a key issue and, as far as Britian is concerned, the message is understood to make quite clear her determination to maintain the effectiveness of her own deterrent force.

Mrs Thatcher also reassures the world that it is Britain's desire to see relations with individual countries improved and that includes relations with the Soviet Union.

TASS Reports Meeting

LD261744 Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- On May 26 Mikhail Gorbachev received in the Kremlin a British parliamentary delegation led by Lord Whitelaw and including representatives of all the parliamentary parties, among them the Labour "shadow" foreign secretary, Denis Healey.

Lord Whitelaw handed Mikhail Gorbachev a personal message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

In the course of a frank and friendly conversation, the sides presented their positions on a broad range of outstanding problems of the international situation and relations between the USSR and Britain.

The sides agreed that it was necessary to stop the arms race and to look for mutually acceptable solutions to other problems of common concern to mankind in today's complex, diverse, controversial but interrelated world. This calls for new thinking, which respects the realities of the nuclear and space age, Mikhail Gorbachev said. One cannot build international security only proceeding from one's own interests while ignoring the security interests of others. No serious talks are possible with such an approach.

Mikhail Gorbachev noted that there were great opportunities for expanding fruitful political dialogue with Britain, for economic and cultural contacts, for parliamentary exchanges and for human contacts. The hopes which arose a year and a half ago in that field still are to come true.

The sides considered various aspects of ending nuclear tests, to which Britian could contribute substantially. Thought could be given jointly to a Soviet-British initiative on resuming the tripartite talks, broken off in 1980, especially since at that time the USSR, the USA and Britain agreed that nuclear weapon tests should be banned. Opinions were exchanged on a chemical weapons ban. Well-argumented replies, consonant with the well-known Soviet position, were given to all the questions of disarmament and verification. As for a reduction in conventional armaments, Mikhail Gorbachev said, the Warsaw Treaty countries will shortly propose a detailed draft agenda for the talks.

The sides also touched upon the situation around Afghanistan and the Middle East and upon humanitarian problems.

Discussing nuclear missiles in Europe, Mikhail Gorbachev put to Britain a new proposal: If Britain officially decides to scrap its nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will be prepared to reduce its nuclear potential accordingly. And if it simultaneously removes foreign nuclear weapons from its territory, the Soviet Union will guarantee that its nuclear weapons will not be targeted at British territory and will never be used against Britian. The entire complex of questions arising in this context could become a subject for discussion and formulation of concerted decisions by the two countries.

Answering a question, Mikhail Gorbachev outlined the Soviet Union's approach to a new meeting with the U.S. Preident. We are for such a meeting, Mikhail Gorbachev said, and do not make any preconditions. We think that the new meeting should tackle the problems of concern to the whole world. We should take major questions to this meeting and take decisions which would strengthen international security, greater trust and lead to the curbing the arms race.

The meeting should take place in a situation which would be consonant with the character of the accords reached in Geneva rather than contradict them. Indeed, it is harldy possible to continue a dialogue without deciding anything, to build up armaments and use the meeting as a cover for this race. We do not agree. This approach of ours is related to what practice itself prompts us and to what the peoples expect from us.

When they in the West present Soviet disarmament initiatives and the Soviet Union's perservering efforts for detente as "Moscow's intrigues," propaganda or Utopia, or a manifestation of weakness, we view all this as a sign of limitations and inability to understand the real state of affairs in today's world, Mikhail Gorbachev said. The point is that the Soviet Union is aware of its high responsibility for the fate of human civilization.

Mikhail Gorbachev thanked the parliamentarians and through them many Britons for their sympathy and assistance in connection with the Chernobyl accident and asked the vistors to convey his best wishes to the British people.

Lord Whitelaw spoke highly of the character and content of the conversation, thanked the host for the hospitality and noted that such discussions and other contacts should lead to greater mutual respect and broader cooperation.

Voss Receives Delegation

LD261510 Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- A delegation of the British Parliament headed by Deputy Prime Minister, Lord President of the Privy Council, member of the Conservative Party Viscount Whitelaw paid a visit to the USSR Supreme Soviet today.

Welcoming the guests, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Avgust Voss expressed the conviction that their visit to the USSR will be promoting the further development and intensification of parliamentary ties of the two countries. The parliamentarians can and must make a real positive contribution to inter-state British-Soviet relations in the interests of peace and international security.

Viscount Whitelaw, other members of the delegation said that they highly appreciate contacts with the USSR Supreme Soviet, attach much importance to their consolidation. Members of the British Council wish such meetings to promote a better mutual understanding between the two countries, the head of the delegation emphasised

During the talk between Boris Aristov, foreign trade minister of the USSR, and the British parliamentary delegation there was an exchange of views on questions of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries and the possibilities for its development.

ITALIAN DELEGATION THANKED FOR CHERNOBYL AID OFFER

LD201455 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- A meeting with a delegation of Italian business circles was held at the chamber of commerce and industry of the USSR. The delegation is led by President of the Italy-USSR Chamber of Commerce Rinaldo Ossola. Questions linked with expansion of scientific, technological, trade and economic links between the two countries were discussed.

Representatives of a number of Italian firms manufacturing equipment for atomic power stations and dealing with questions of ensuring their safety, offered the Soviet Union assistance in nullifying the effects of the Chernobyl accident. The Soviet side expressed gratitude and readiness to render assistance to these firms in establishing cooperation in decontaminating the areas around the atomic power station.

Questions of financing Soviet-Italian trade through using the European Currency Unit and the Soviet transferable rouble were discussed at the meeting. The Italian businessmen were told that a working meeting between representatives of business circles of the USSR, USA, Western Europe and Japan on expanding cooperation in science, technology, industry and agriculture is to be held in Moscow in the second half of June.

The Italian businessmen will have negotiations at the Gasogroprom, the Foreign Trade Ministry, a number of Soviet industrial ministries and departments.

PROTOCOL WITH SWEDEN SIGNED ON TRADE LINKS

LD242015 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1755 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Stockholm, 23 May (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports: The (?19th) session of the Soviet-Swedish intergovernmental commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation ended here today.

A broad range of issues of bilateral trade, economic, scientific, and technical links were examined and ways of broadening and strengthening them were mapped out. It was noted that Soviet-Swedish business cooperation is of a traditional nature, has deep roots, and is developing to mutual advantage in the interests of the two countries and peoples.

At the initial meeting a protocol for the session was signed which provides for the development of business links, including the sphere of the agro-industrial complex, the extraction and processing of natural resources on the Kola Peninsula, and the expansion of coastal trade.

The document stresses the importance of developing production cooperation on the basis of joint manufacture of industrial goods and agreement on marketing of them, carrying out major projects on a compensation basis, and introducing resource-saving processes during modernization of the ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, chemical and petrochemical, pulp and paper, and construction industries. A large part of the protocol was devoted to cooperation in developing and introducing automatic control systems for flexible production processes, and in the application of biotechnology methods in industry.

Within the framework of the session, talks were held with the chiefs of the Swedish committee for promoting trade with the USSR, and meetings and talks were held on current and future cooperation with representatives of the state concern Procordia, the Boliden concern, and the Alfa-Laval and Atlas Copco companies.

At a press conference held here, Vladislav Malkevich, the head of the Soviet Government delegation at the session, chairman of the Soviet part of the commission and deputy USSR foreign trade minister; and Thage Petersson, chairman of the Swedish part of the commission and Swedish minister of industry, noted that the results of the session open up new opportunities for the mutually advantageous development of bilateral business links in the interests of strengthening relations of good-neighborliness and mutual understanding between the USSR and Sweden.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-FRENCH PROJECT -- A gas-cooling station is being built in Novyy Urengoy with the help of Soviet and French specialists. It is to cool gas to sub-zero temperatures for transporting along pipelines. The station is equipped with a computer control complex. A contract has been concluded between the USSR and France to build another five such stations. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 12 May 86 LD]

LIBYAN 'REVOLUTIONARY LEADER' JALLUD VISITS MOSCOW

Welcomed by Ryzhkov, Sokolov, Others

LD261454 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1440 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 26 May (TASS) -- 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Moscow today on a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was met by Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Sergey Sokolov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and minister of defense of the USSR; and other officials.

Talks with Ryzhkov

LD270714 Moscow TASS in English 0708 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- Soviet-Libyan talks have opened in the Kremlin today. They are being conducted by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

'Abd al-Salam Jallud has been on a working visit in Moscow since Monday at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Talks Continue

LD271104 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1028 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 27 May (JANA) -- The joint Libyan-Soviet talks opened this morning in Moscow. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee member and Soviet prime minister, participated in the talks. Members of the delegation accompanying Staff Maj Jallud on the Libyan Arab side, and on the Soviet side Sergey Sokolov, defense minister; Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations at the Foreign Ministry, and Eduard Shervednadze, foreign minister, participated in the talks.

Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud placed a garland of flowers at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Moscow this morning.

To Sign Arms Deal

GF271008 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 May (QNA) -- Citing diplomatic sources in Moscow, press reports here today say that Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, Libyan Revolution Command Council member, who is currently paying a visit to the Soviet Union, will sign a huge weapons deal for his country.

The UAE newspaper AL-ITTIHAD reports today that talks on this deal took place during the recent visit of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Moscow. The talks were later halted, but after the U.S. aggression against Libya, Moscow agreed to sign the deal, which is regarded one of the largest Soviet military deals hammered out with an Arab country in many years.

PRAVDA Profiles Jallud

PM260853 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "On His Visit to the Soviet Union. Member of the Revolutionary Leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah 'Abd al-Salam Jallud"]

[Text] Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Revolutionary Leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah (SPLAJ), arrives in the Soviet Union today on a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

'Abd al-Salam Jallud was born in 1941 in southern Tripolitania. He served with the armored troops after completing military college in Banghazi. He played an active part in the "free officers" underground organization. During the revolutionary events of 1 September 1969, which led to the overthrow of the monarchy, "Abd al-Salam Jallud led the operation to seize power in the city of Tripoli and in Triplitania Province. He became a member of the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) and also occupied a number of posts in the Libyan Government. From 1972 through 1977 he headed the government as prime minister. In March 1977 he was elected member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress -- the supreme organ of legislative power of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, proclaimed at that same time. Since 1979 'Abd al-Salam Jallud has been a member of the SPLAJ's Revolutionary Leadership.

'Abd al-Salam Jallud advocates the further development and deepening of friendly Soviet-Libyan relations.

He has visited the Soviet Union on a number of occasions at the head of official Libyan delegations, and he attended the 27th CPSU Congress.

In greeting the important guest's arrival in the Soviet Union, Soviet people expressed the confidence that this visit and the forthcoming Soviet-Libyan talks will make a new contribution to the development and strengthening of the friendship and solidarity between our countries.

U.S. 'Anti-Libya' Campaign Viewed

LD262200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1634 GMT 26 May 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Igor Charikov]

[Text] As you know from radio, television, and press reports, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, is on a working visit to our country. He arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR Government.

On the eve of the high-ranking guest's visit to the USSR, the Libyan press, as well as papers in other Arab countries, comment that relations of friendship and solidarity are developing and strengthening between our two countries. The USSR, as you recall, was among the first to come out with a resolute condemnation of the barbarous raid by U.S. planes on the peaceful Libyan cities of Tripoli and Banghazi, and with a demand to halt the unbridled anti-Libyan campaign undertaken by U.S. military circles.

Libya's independent foreign policy course arouses anger and annoyance in Washington. At Washington's command, U.S. propaganda aspires to ascribe to Libya the role of organizer of international terrorist actions. It is trying to do this in an unsubstantiated manner, without any grounds or proof, counting merely on playing on the emotions of the people who have suffered and on firing up anti-Libyan feelings and passionate chauvinism in the United States and abroad.

Recently threats against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, aimed at punishing it once again in advance, have again been sounded in Washington, and they have also been addressed to Syria and Iran.

Washington allocates a special role to the bourgeois organs of the press to move public opinion in the necessary direction. The major Italian newspaper, CORRIERE DELLA SERE, in particular published an article last Sunday in which the unambiguous suggestion was that at the start of this week 20 Syrian citizens living in Italy could be arrested. There was allegedly proof against them; the paper claimed that they had taken part in an explosion in the Leonardo da Vinci Airport. The paper, you see, raises passions but adduces no concrete facts. The device is, by the way, quite an old one, but it cannot be ruled out that the Italian police are indeed preparing some kind of anti-Syrian action. Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar appeared on a CBS television program and resolutely denied all allegations -- including those in the Italian press -- of complicity in terrorist acts of any kind. He described as dishonest and unjust the accusation, without proof, that the government of any country is guilty of terrorism.

The anti-Syrian campaign, just like the anti-Libyan campaign which preceded it, is of course designed to achieve political goals. The main goal consists of frightening the Arabs and forcing them to submit to Israeli occupation and give up their support for the just Palestinian cause.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS AL-ASAD-LIZICHEV MEETING

PM270744 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Reception in Damascus"]

[Text] Damascus, 24 May -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad today received Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, who is here on a working visit.

During a talk that was held in a friendly atmosphere, opinions were exchanged on questions of the international situation, the Near East situation, and Soviet-Syrian cooperation.

GORBACHEV DELIVERS 'MAJOR' SPEECH AT FOREIGN MINISTRY

LD231720 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- A conference "On Tasks of the Central Apparatus and the Institutions of the USSR Foreign Ministry Abroad in Implementing the Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress in the Field of Foriegn Policy" began at the Soviet Foreign Ministry today. A report by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, was submitted to the conference.

Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, delivered a major speech. It described in detail the conditions of the activity of Soviet diplomacy at the present stage, analyzed its main directions and forms in organic connection with the domestic tasks now being handled by the party -- economic, social, political, defensive, ideological and moral -- and which are connected with major changes in socialist society and the world at large.

The achievements were assessed in the light of the new situation. And, what is important, the experience of Soviet diplomacy in recent years was examined critically and with party-style exactingness. Measures were determined to perfect its entire practice of implementing the strategic line of the 27th CPSU Congress.

Taking part in the conference are Secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin, Vadim Medvedev and Aleksandr Yakovlev, CPSU Central Committee department head Stepan Chervonenko, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology Guriy Marchuk, Ministers of the USSR Boris Aristov, Boris Gostev, Chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev, senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy ministers for foreign affairs, other ministries and departments, ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the USSR, consuls general, secretaries of party organizations.

Shevardnadze Addresses Meeting

LD241658 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TASS) -- The conference of foreign policy staff, convened at the USSR Foreign Ministry, ended today. The ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary, consuls general, secretaries of party organizations, staff of the central apparatus of the USSR Foreign Ministry, and representatives of other departments and establishments taking part in it discussed tasks for implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress in the area of foreign policy in the light of the requirements advanced in the speech at the conference by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

A concluding address at the conference was delivered by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

GORBACHEV ADDRESSES TASHKENT FILM FESTIVAL

PM230827 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the participants and guests of the Ninth International Movie Festival of Asian, African, and Latin American Countries in Tashkent.

I cordially greet the participants and guests of the Ninth International Movie Festival of Asian, African, and Latin Countries.

Our country is living through a time of bold, constructive plans and intensive work. I hope that at the festival each of you will be able to gain a real sense of the atmosphere in which Soviet people are living and working since the 27th CPSU Congress.

Today's world of alarm and joy, cares and aspirations is vast and multifaceted. But the main thing today is that mankind faces a terrible choice. It is a question of preserving life on earth. Nuclear weapons -- the offspring of imperialism -- contains forces capable of destroying all civilization's achievements. That is why the basis of the Soviet state's foreign policy is the program for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and for averting the danger of war by the end of the 20th century. That is why we have decided once again to extend our unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests.

We are fighting persistently for the sole reasonable historical prospect: the construction of a peaceful, happy future. Socialism unreservedly rejects war as a means of resolving ideological and political disputes. Its ideal is a world without weapons or violence, in which every people freely chooses its path of development and way of life.

History has proved more than once how great is the role of advanced art in defending humanist values. The progressive cinemas, with its vast audience, can do much to establish the leading ideas of the time and promote the triumph of mutual understanding and cooperation between countires and peoples.

I am confident that this Tashkent meeting will serve these noble goals.

I sincerely wish all the participants and guests of the festival fruitful work, creative achievements, happiness, and peace.

[Signed] M. Gorbachev.

GROMYKO CHAIRS SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM SESSION

LD231625 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] A regular session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium took place in the Kremlin today, chaired by Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The question of the progress of implementation of the electors' mandates, which were given to deputies of the country's Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation, and which come under the jurisdiction of all-union organs, and the results of the examination of proposals and remarks from standing commissions of the chambers and deputies, put forward at the fourth session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, were discussed. A report by Comrade Aliyev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Council of Ministers first deputy chairman was heard on this question. A supplementary report was delivered by Comrade Maslennikov, chairman of the Planning and Budget Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

It was noted at the session that the USSR Council of Ministers, the union ministries and departments, and the councils of ministers of union republics have stepped up work on fulfilling the state plan for the economic and social development of the country and the state budget of the USSR for 1986, the implementation of electors' mandates, the proposals and remarks of standing commissions, chambers, and deputies.

However, certain USSR ministries and departments did not ensure the implementation of recommendations of standing commissions, of proposals and remarks of deputies on the implementation of the necessary measures to step up the transfer onto an intensive path of development, the unconditional fulfillment of targets set by the plans, strengthening contract discipline and increasing the efficiency of the economy. A decision was adopted on this question.

Then the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium examined the question of the work carried out in the Latvian SSR on observing the demands of legislation on the strengthening of the family and increasing its responsibility for the education of children. A decision was adopted on the question discussed. Certain other questions of state life were discussed at the session. Taking part in the discussion of questions on the agenda were Comrades Zaykov, Kunayev, and Slyunkov.

Presidium Decisions Reported

LD232024 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 23 May 86

[Excerpts] A regular session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium took place in the Kremlin today, chaired by Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In the decision that was adopted, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium recommended to the USSR Council of Ministers, on the basis of the aims of the 27th CPSU Congress, to raise exactingness for the unconditional fulfillment by each ministry and department of the USSR, and by the councils of Ministers of the union republics, of the tasks of state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR, of the USSR 1986 state budget, and of the measures to speed up the country's social and economic development as outlined by the party.

It has been proposed to the presidiums of the supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics and to the local soviets of people's deputies to step up monitoring of progress in the fulfillment of the plans for economic and social development of the republics and oblasts. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium then examined the question of the work carried out in the Latvian SSR on observing the demands of legislation on the strengthening of the family and increasing its responsibility for the education of children. A report was delivered by Comrade Ruben, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Latvian SSR.

On behalf of the deputies who took part in preparing the issue in question, a supplementary report was delivered by Comrade Balakina, chairman of the deputies preparatory commission and first secretary of the Zaraysk Gorkom Moscow Oblast. On the question discussed a decision was adopted which will be published in the press. Certain other questions of state life were discussed at the session.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON CHERNOBYL REPORTED

Voronin on Situation

PM261231 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 86 First Edition p 3

[Special correspondents V. Gubarev, M. Odinets report under the rubric "The Chernobyl AES: A Month After the Accident": "Nightingales Over Pripyat"]

[Text] Chernobylskiy Rayon, Kiev Oblast -- In Chernobyl the nightingales seem to be hurrying to see off the remaining spring days, days so rich in sun and warmth. The nightingale concerts over Pripyat do not stop by day or by night. We wondered, were the nightingales singing then, at the beginning of May?

"We had no time for these," observed the dosimeter operator who was carefully "inspecting" our pockets, pants, and shoes.

"And now?" we inquired.

"Times are different now," the dosimeter operator concluded laconically, letting us into the headquarters where the government commission is located.

By the calendar, a month has already passed since the accident. But those who are waging the battle against the disobedient reactor have different ways of reckoning time. Here the length of the work shift ranges from 18 hours for those working outside the limits of the industrial site to a few minutes for those who approach the reactor in order to set up temperature gauges or those who collect from the fourth unit the fragments of graphite and fuel which have broken away from the reactor. Everyone's work time is dictated by the radiation level, and this varies from almost the natural background to hundreds of roentgens an hour. The dosimeter operators regularly -- night and day -- carry out unremitting monitoring of the radiation situation both on the AES territory and inside the premises of each unit, including the fourth unit, although it is still difficult to approach it...

A month after the Chernobyl tragedy...

It is now possible to analyze the stages of the development of events. Their drama and tension is clear to everyone. Although by no means all the conclusions can be drawn -- that is a matter for the future.

Unfortunately, in the first days it was not possible to determine the scale of the accident.

"I still cannot believe that there was an explosion in the reactor. The design is reliable, from the safety viewpoint there are triple safeguards. The physicists seemed to have thought of everything, but nonetheless there was an accident... No, it just won't sink in! Have we, perhaps, gotten so used to nuclear power that we regard it as ordinary?! But we must not forget how complex nuclear technology is...

We are talking with one of our illustrious nuclear scientists at the headquarters where the government commission is located. He arrived here yesterday. First he flew all over the region of the Chernobyl AES by helicopter, then he set off for the power station and toured the machine room...

"We have work to do," he concluded briefly. "We have to prepare for the startup of the first and second units and carefully study the situation in the 30-km zone -- in some regions there is no radiation. So why should people be meandering around all over the place? Let them return home and work normally. And where the radiation level is a bit higher, decontamination must be carried out urgently. In general, it is time to start a resolute offensive!..."

Herein the headquarters for the elimination of the accident, at the former Skazochnyy pioneer camps from where the duty shifts travel to the station, at the checkpoint in the 50-km zone, in the military units -- everywhere people invariably recalled the feat of those who took the force of the first blow a month ago.

"From the central hall you could clearly see something between a glow and a kind of luminescence. But there was nothing there to burn except the 'two-bit coin' of the reactor. We decided between us that the glow was coming from the reactor. I reported the situation for transmission to Kiev..."

"At the time of explosion I was by the control room, at the duty man's post. Suddenly I heard a strong discharge of steam. We attached no significance to it, because a discharge of steam has taken place on a number of occasions, while I have been working there. I was about to go off duty, and then there was an explosion. I rushed to the window the explosion was followed instantaneously by further explosions. I saw a fiery black ball of smoke rising over the roof of the machine department of the fourth unit... We stayed to the end, until they had extinguished the fire. Then we went down to where the ambulance picked us up. We were in a bad way..."

"In the situation which had arisen, nobody allowed himself to relax at all, on the contrary, everyone displayed cohesion and organization and the ability and daring to make independent, sometimes risky decisions. But that is the only correct thing to do in such a situation. Although everyone knew and understood what he was up against..."

"The water came up to the third unit. It had to be pumped away. That required a power supply. Nobody could do that except us. So we stayed, although we knew that the radiation level was very high. Not even the dosimeter operator could say exactly how high -- his instrument readings had gone off the end of the scale..."

These are fragments from notes made by firemen in the hospital. Some of them are no longer with us. But their feat will always remain in the people's memory and their names will be given to streets in one of the most beautiful cities of the Ukraine -- Pripyat, to which people will certainly return.

The nuclear power industry had not previously experienced such a major accident. So incredible efforts were required in the first few days in order to contain it. Dozens of helicopter men accomplished feats. They took their combat machines into the crater of the nuclear volcano, lowered themselves, hung in a radioactive column of gases, and dropped protective materials. They covered the reactor with a thick layer of sand, lead, boron, and clay, and thereby prevented the spread of radioactivity into the atmosphere. Now there is a clear blue sky above the reactor.

The attack on the damaged reactor recently began "frontally" too. People cannot approach it themselves, and radio-controlled machines are being sent into the attack. No the rebellious nuclear giant has not yet surrendered, it is still dangerous. But the strategy for the struggle has been determined and the necessary means exist. This means that victory will certainly come.

L.A. Vornin has just returned from the industrial site. It is a rule here that whether you are an ordinary worker or a deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, you have to undergo decontamination, present yourself to the doctors, and only then are you allowed to appear in your office, where the working day begins at 0600 hours and ends after midnight.

"The miners are splendid people," Lev Andreyevich said, beginning his conversation with us. "They work efficiently and selflessly. We only had to turn to them for help, and they came instantly, settled in, and immediately started sinking a shaft. We have to get close to the reactor and make an additional concrete slab underneath it. The miners have organized a socialist competition -- every team overfulfills its target every day. People are all of one mind: Eliminate the accident as quickly as possible."

[Correspondents] "is the situation on the industrial site clear today?"

[Voronin] "Of course. Our task is to protect people. To this end it is necessary to be thoroughly acquainted with the radiation situation at the station. Dosimeter posts have been set up, thorough monitoring is being carried out, and the necessary recommendations are being issued. In particular, regarding the miners, a team works for 3 hours, and since there are eight teams, the digging toward the reactor is taking place around the clock."

[Correspondents] "What is the situation at the fourth unit?"

[Voronin] "The residual thermal reactions are dying down," the deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers replies, "but the level of radiation at the unit itself is high, so we are using special equipment. It is necessary to create a base [fundament] beneath the reactor, and the heap [zoval] which formed after the explosion must not only be protectively 'fenced in,' but a base must be built under it too. Two concrete walls will be delivered here in the near future. We will ship them up to the heap on powerful trailers and set them up. This will immediately enable us to widen the front of operations -- there will be biological protection."

[Correspondents] "Is this the start of the construction of the 'tomb'?"

[Voronin] "Basically, yes, of course. But remember that the 'tomb' is a crucial structure. It is not simply a roof to cover the damaged part of the power station, but a relatively complex structure. After all, it is necessary to carry out constant monitoring inside the 'tomb,' and first and foremost to monitor the temperature."

[Correspondents] "As is known, the level of radiation is falling..."

[Voronin] "But it is still a long way from the norm," L.A. Voronin noted. 'We have drawn up timetables for measures to decontaminate the station. We are not only eliminating the sources of radiation and collecting the fragments, we are also working all over the territory inside the power station. In parallel, we are beginning preparations for the normal operation of the first and second units. This will take several months, but we will certainly start them up this year... Major operations have been launched to decontaminate the 30-km zone. It has been divided into 3 sectors and we receive data from 240 points several times a day, from the air and from the surface of the earth. The situation is gradually improving: Every 24 hours the radiation level falls by 5 percent. .."

"It is all being done very quickly," L.A. Voronin went on. "The problems are being resolved on a comprehensive basis. Incidentally, we have a special staff in operation at the USSR Gossnab, and as yet there are no complaints against it... I am not saying that in my capacity as leader," Lev Andreyevich explains. "But if people deserve it, why not praise them?! To assess the situation at the Chernobyl AES today in brief, I can define it thus: Work is settling down calmly and the elimination of the consequences of the accident is proceeding confidently. The labor is intensive, but we are fully monitoring what is happening and we know what to do in future."

...Vast forces are now concentrated in the region of the Chernobyl AES. The necessary equipment is coming in from all over the country. Many camps have sprung up both within the 30-km zone and outside it.

The lilac has finished flowering. Summer is coming. And so the nightingales pour out their song in Chernobyl, in the villages and hamlets, in the forests and the orchards.

Spokesmen Cited on 'Experiments'

PM231410 Stockholm DACENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 May 86 p 6

[Harald Harmin dispatch: "Experiments Were Taking Place at Chernobyl"]

[Text] Moscow -- The accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station happened in connection with certain experiments and tests which were being carried out in the context of preparations for the reactor's annual shutdown for maintenance work.

This was revealed yesterday by Viktor Sidorenko, deputy chairman of "Gosatomenergonadzor," the Soviet Union's nuclear energy inspectorate.

The information was given at a meeting with a small group of journalists, and opinions among the journalists present are divided as to what Sidorenko was actually referring to when he spoke of experiments and tests.

However, the majority agreed that the "experiments" were not of any particularly unusual or sensational nature, but were chiefly intended to test what happens in the reactor during the shutdown process itself.

According to Sidorenko, the accident happened "in connection with the planned annual repair work" on the reactor, that is, more or less, the annual overhaul, when certain "preventive work" is undertaken.

During this process the "reactor's capacity is reduced," Sidorenko explained, adding also that "we planned to undertake some experiments, some research work, when the reactor was at this level." "The accident happened during a phase of experimental research work," Sidorenko said on another occasion during his conversation with the journalists. The reactor was down at a level of 6 to 7 percent of its nominal capacity, of its thermal capacity.

He also explained that "the experiments had to do with checks on certain systems at the power station" and repeated that the reactor was "at the aforementioned output level." "This made it possible to give operational instructions to other power stations," Sidorenko said.

One of the journalists taking part told DAGENS NYHETER that from the context it seemed that Sidorenko meants that the system was being tested to see what happens when a reactor's capacity is reduced or increased.

This interpretation is perhaps supported by a statement by Ivan Yemilyanov, one of the builders of the failed type of reactor, last Monday [20 May] during a conversation with another group of journalists.

Yemilyanov revealed that the reactor was at a 6- to 7-percent efficiency level for an "extended period of time" in preparation "for total shutdown of the reactor." It was not clear from Yemilyanov's words whether this unusually long period, during which the reactor was down at the 6- to 7-percent level, was planned or not. It is possible that the "experiment" that Sidorenko spoke of yesterday could have some connection with this "extended period" which preceded the planned total shutdown of the reactor.

At any rate the reactor clearly did not react normally during this phase. Within the space of a mere 10 seconds "there was a sudden increase in efficiency from the 6- to 7-percent level to 50 percent of the reactor's capacity," Yemilyanov said on Monday.

This squares with what Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev said in his television speech on Wednesday last week.

"As the specialists have reported, the reactor's output suddenly increased in connection with a planned shutdown of the fourth reactor unit," Gorbachev said in his speech.

In his conversation with the journalists Sidorenko said that the preliminary analyses of the accident have not yet revealed anything which falls outside the range of what was known from simulated reactor failures. However, he stressed that the analysis of the Chernobyl failure is still incomplete. In response to a question as to why it took several days for the Soviet authorities to confirm the accident Sidorenko, said that he himself had been informed within 3 hours.

Sidorenko wanted to explain the fact that, in a telephone conversation with the nuclear power inspectorate on the Monday afternoon after the accident, the Swedish Embassy was told that nothing special had happened at any Soviet power station with the suggestion that the Swedish Embassy official "was perhaps speaking to someone who had not been informed."

Water Pumps Sent for Clean-up

LD240320 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Powerful GNOM pumps are to accelerate the elimination of the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl AES. The collective of the Kishinev production association (Moldavgidromash) has sent the latest shipment to Chernobyl. A request was made from Kiev to urgently deliver a shipment to Chernobyl of the powerful GNOM pumps, which are intended for pumping out underground water. An emergency production conference was set up, and in literally a matter of hours 10 sets were sent to the Ukraine. Not only (Moldavgidromash), but also related enterprises quickly became involved in the work.

Moscow TV on Continuing Efforts

LD241709 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 24 May in its "Vremya" newscast carries a report from correspondent A. Krutov on Chernobyl AES and the efforts to eliminate the consequences of the accident. Krutov Reports that the situation at the Chernobyl AES has stabilized and is improving daily. The video shows seven fire engines, each carrying four long canisters, moving along a wet road, driver's seat windows open and drivers wearing masks; an APC emerges from a junction marked as the entry to Pripyat. Footage, which Krutov says has been shot by Kiev correspondents, shows roadside scenes from a fire engine window: Army trucks, APCs, ambulance vans, and minibuses are parked off road near the approaches to Chernobyl AES.

Krutov states: "Medical personnel have permitted a television group to visit the territory of the atomic station, which means that the degree of risk is minimal. Here they are driving past the concrete works; this has already been decontaminated and is soon to start to produce output for the damaged reactor." Video shows factory, with broken-down concrete railings by roadside, open and broken windows, no signs of personnel. Krutov continues: "Here it is, the fourth power set. Beyond, around it, is still a high danger zone, but here deactivization of the soil and buildings is being actively and rapdily carried out." Video shows fire engine and five people wearing full radiation masks and overalls, in front of multistory structure showing signs of heavy damage and some blackening. Men shown unwinding hoses from truck spraying from cylinders onto roof and onto the soil outside the power station perimeter wall.

A.I. Zayats, identified on screen as the chief engineer of the Yuzhteploenergomontazh [Southern Heat and Power Assembly] trust, and interviewed out of doors, wearing overalls, white cap but with cloth mask slung loosely round his neck, says: "Today we completed an important stage in the work on ensuring the safety of the water catchment area of the Pripyat and Dnepr. Construction and assembly of the pipelines ensuring the diversion of run-off rain waters into specially provided tanks has been completed. This comprises 7 km of pipelines and three pumping stations." Against a background of much shouting of instructions and general hubbub from a group of about seven men in the background, wearing overalls but likewise with masks hung round their necks, Zayats explains that a nitrogen pipeline had to be run through the labyrinth of the reactor rooms and under the heart of the reactor itself. This helps to further cool down the reactor temperature. At least 12 large gas canisters are stacked up in the open, next to heavy-tracked earth-moving machinery. Everyone, says Zayats, is working hard and selflessly.

A further brief shot of the damaged station from the window of a fire engine, and the camera switches abruptly to a peaceful agricultural scene, showing a fodder harvester at work in the field. Krutov states: "At the station, work on liquidating the accident is continuing. But in the areas where the people evacuated from the danger zone are living, everyday working life is proceeding. In Khoynikskiy rayon, Gomel oblast, hay-cutting time has already started." Tilling of potato crops is under way. Farmers shown out in the fields in earnest consultation. The secretary of the party rayon committee says that excellent results have been obtained in livestock breeding in May. Milk production is up 10 percent. Cows are shown peacefully grazing in the green pastures, while after a hard day's work, people enjoy a good soccer match at the local stadium.

TRUD Describes Clean-Up

LD251232 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1050 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 25 May (TASS) -- The dropping of special loads into the zone of the damaged reactor at the Chernobyl AES is now being carried out not into its crater, but alongside, along its perimeter. The plug of sand and clay, lead and dolomite, boron, and other materials, weighing several thousand tons with which the damaged reactor has been reliably sealed, is fulfilling its task well, the newspaper 'TRUD' writes today.

The "breathing" of the damaged unit is becoming more and more easy. But polluted blockages and debris have remained. It has been particularly difficult to subdue the radioactive dust. White "quilts," in which, instead of feathers, there is a liquid synthetic rubber, are intended to help to "damp" it. On contact with air it quickly hardens, covering the affected areas with a reliable film. Helicopter pilots have been charged to cover them.

Areas of the AES territory which have been polluted with minor emissions and radioactive dust are being deactivated in another way -- with an absorbent film, 'TRUD' writes. In its hardened state, it is similar to that from which polyethylene sacks are made. It is applied in its liquid form by spraying onto the affected surfaces. On cooling, it takes hold of the dust and other "rubbish" so tightly that the film which has been formed can easily be "rolled up" and later transported to places for burial.

These efforts have had a significant influence on the sharp reduction of the radioactive background in the area of the 30km zone. In the capital of the Ukraine, the newspaper quotes the Ukrainian minister of health, Anatoliy Romanenko, it poses absolutely no danger to the health of people.

Intense Work Continues

LD250650 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1400 GMT on 24 May carries a 6-minute report by Vladimir Sokolov, Kiev correspondent, on the work around the Chernobyl AES. In his opening remarks, Vladimir Sokolov, reports that intense work is under way in the area of the Chernobyl AES, work, moreover, that is expanding in scale, with 1,000 people already busy there. Radio-controlled robot bulldozers are being used in the immediate danger zone around the reactor to clear debris, and Sokolov notes that he has just seen such a bulldozer being improved at a testing ground near Kiev: it was developed for work in dangerous or dusty conditions, while work under radioactive conditions call for enhanced reliability. As this has been ensured, the first robots have gone to work, and their chief cargo is cement, of which a great deal is necessary to cover up the damaged reactor with a concrete sarcophagus. Meanwhile, Sokolov adds, special military subunits have, in the shortest possible time, erected protective installations to prevent radioactive substances from getting into the Pripyat River, especially following rain. Other special subunits are already decontaminating the settlements in the evacuated zone, roads, and various installations. Those people in this zone, and others who have been evacuated, are aware of the state's concern and the support of all the Soviet people who are sending contributions and working extra days as their way of helping.

"Rumors and untruths, which in various places are being propagated about the station, about Chernobyl, about Kiev, are also seeping through to Kiev," continues Sokolov. "These, it must be said, are regarded everywhere as anecdotes. But really, what can one invent about Kiev, where normal life is still going on, where enterprises are working as usual, construction sites are making their usual racket, and where in the evenings the parks, theaters and concert halls are full of people, all the more so since the Kiev spring festival is currently under way with collectives of artists from 12 of the country's republics taking part. The only new sign is that there are fewer and fewer younger children to be seen: They are being sent south to pioneer camps and resorts. It has been decided that this preventive measure would not be a bad thing for the little ones."

Sokolov goes on to say that there are many instances of selfless labor and even heroism among those engaged in the difficult and sometimes dangerous work in the immediate vicinity of the damaged reactor. One such heroic deed was carried out by servicemen of the Red Banner Kiev Military District soon after the accident: A great deal of water had accumulated beneath the damaged reactor, but in order to drain it off, the slide-valves had to be opened; these were under deep water, and high temperatures still raged in the reactor.

Sokolov then interviews Major General Aleksey Fedorovich Suyatin, who says that there was a danger that large masses of combustible material could fall into the pool of water and cause a thermal explosion. The water had to be drained away at all costs. Suyatin then recounts how he "invited" captain Petr Pavlovich Zbrovskiy, Major Vasiliy Mikhaylovich Kotinyev, and Lieutneant Akimov to help him carry out a reconnaissance in an armored personnel carrier under the furnace top to the reactor to find the door into the water pool. They took Second Lieutenant Oleynik and Lieutenant Korshunov with them, and started to break down the door with a sledgehammer. This was in vain, however, because having broken down the door, they could not get the hoses through it. It was therefore necessary to drive through the transport bay, where they found a door to the fire escape staircase. They had to cut away the fire escape, meter by meter, after which they started their operation. Maj Gen Suyatin and Capt Zbrovskiy were in command, and Akimov and a crew of four, and Maj Kotinyev, also with four men, fed in two hoses. By 0200 in the morning the work was done, and the pumping began; hatches were found where one could open up the valves in the water intake beneath the reactor. Sokolov concludes: "Thus, briefly and simply, they fulfilled their task. It remains to add that all those who took part in this, to put it bluntly, heroic deed in a very dangerous zone, are today at their posts."

SOYUZ DOCKS WITH MIR ORBITAL STATION

LD231147 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMt 23 May 86

[A. Galkin and V. Kubasov report from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] At 1411 hours [1011 GMT] today the Soyuz-TM spacecraft docked with the Mir orbital station. Aleksandr Galkin and Valeriy Kubasov report from Flight Control Center.

[Video opens with shot of Flight Control Center. On a big screen to the left one can see the earth's curve and what Kubasov says is the station viewed from the Soyuz-TM camera. Former cosmonaut Kubasov is seen watching the screen with Galkin. The camera returns to the screen as the Soyuz-TM maneuvers until docking is completed.

[Galkin] So, we have flight control center on the air. Now the big screen on the left has a picture of the earth, and against its background, Valeriy Nikolayevich, what is it, the spacecraft or the station?

[Kubasov] The station.

[Galkin] So the television camera on the Soyuz-TM is now in operation. Valeriy Nikolayevich, to be honest, you have seen this kind of picture more than once, what is the difference between spacecraft of the SOYUZ-T series and the new TM ship?

[Kubasov] Well, at the moment we are at a distance of about 200 meters; the outlines of the design of the station are still not clear enough to see, but at first glance there seems, in fact, to be no difference. In fact, however, there is one fundamental difference in this system of radio-technical measurements for the approach [to the station] in comparison with what there was before. This means that this system does not require relative orientation of the station toward the ship, so this orientation can be arbitrary. The ship approaches the station, then, depending on which unit has been selected for docking -- that is, this is correspondingly communicated to the ship -- the ship itself flies around the station and seeks the required unit. [Screen shows a camera angle changing]

[Galkin] We can see how the picture is changing, how the field of view is changing. Does that mean that the ship is maneuvering around the station?

[Kubasov] Well, I would say that now we are at the final stage of the fly-around, so the ship is already close; it has basically already flown around. A small part of the maneuver remains to be done.

[Galkin] Let us watch, now, how the picture of the Mir station is rushing up on the screen. [video shows closer picture of station's solar panels]

[Kubasov] Yes, you can see its solar panels, which are considerably longer than on the Salyut-7 stion.

[Galkin] The final meters. [Camera moves right in to contact; details on the station are clearly visible on the screen]

[Kubasov] Well, I think that we are not seeing it for the last time. We hope that this station will serve us for a long time and that we will have the opportunity of seeing it often and continually from space.

[Galkin] How precisely and calmly the approach is going. Here... we have contact.

[Kubasov] We have contact, and probably the lock-on has taken place.

[Flight control announcenment in background] Attention. According to telemetric information, mechnaical lock-on has been established.

[Kubasov] The mechanical stage is the beginning of docking.

[Galin] So it as all over, successfully completed?

[Kubasov] We can say yes. The testing of the new radio-technical approach system has taken place successfully.

[Galkin] Congratulations, Valeriy Nikolayevich.

[Kubasov] Thank you.

Futher Details

LD231200 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- The unmanned transport craft "Soyuz TM" docked with an orbital complex consisting of the research station "Mir" (Peace) and the freighter "Progress-26" at 14 hours 12 minutes Moscow time today.

The "Mir"-"Progress-26" complex has been in unmanned autonomous flight since May 5.

During "Soyuz TM"'s two-day autonomous flight, its on-board systems, equipment and structural elements were tried out and then its trajectory was corrected in insert it in the linkup orbit.

The mutual search, rendezvous, approaching and docking of "Soyuz TM" and "Mir" were carried out with the help of the on-board automatic systems of both space vehicles. The spaceship docked with the station on the side which has the airlock compartment.

A program for their joint flight provides for testing the upgraded "Soyuz TM" spaceship as part of the orbiting complex.

There are two research complexes currently functioning in near-terrestrail orbits, the unmanned "Mir"-Soyuz TM"-"Progress-26" one and a manned one consisting of the station "Salyut-7", the spaceship "Soyuz T-15" and the satellite "Cosmos-1686".

The flights of both complexes are procedding normally.

Cosmonauts Lenonid Kizim and Valadimir Solovev are in good health and feeling well.

New Docking System Explained

LD242026 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 24 May carries a 3 and 1/2 minute report on the Soyuz-TM space ship.

The report begins by stating that the Flight Control Center has begun testing the Soyuz-TM spaceship now that it has docked with the Mir space station. Then Vladimir Viktorovich Aksenov, pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR, twice Hero of the Soviet Union, is interviewed on the ship's new piloting system ("kurs"), following the docking.

Aksenov says that the Soyuz-TM differs from the Soyuz-T, which he flew, in its improvements in certain systems on the ship such as the rendezvous and docking system: It is a new system, called ("kurs") and replaces the old ("igla") system. According to Aksenov the new system makes it possible to dock in a new mode: Whereas before the station and the ship had to dock with each other docking-port to docking-port and thus had to be located parallel to each other with communications aerials parallel, now the new system pilots the ship toward the station without the need for the station to line up with it. The new system locates the station's position in space, pilots the ship to approach the station to a certain distance; it then flies round the station and finds itself a docking-port on the station and thus docks onto the station either on the crew's command or automatically.

Aksenov states that other systems have been modified: The motor installation has been altered and improved; the control system includes improved algorithms in many control operations; there is a new parachute system; the docking-port and docking unit have been somewhat modernized; and the layout inside the cabin has been improved. He concludes by saying that the tests have been successfully completed and the Soyuz-TM is now expected to replace the Soyuz-T on manned flights.

Mission Director on System

LD231804 Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- The firstling [as received] of a new series of transport spaceships -- "Soyuz TM" has successfully stood the test: It was linked up with the orbital complex "Mir" -- "Progress-26" today.

The new spaceship was launched to comprehensively test it in conditions of a real spaceflight, journalists have been told by director of the mission, pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR Valeriy Ryumin. The primary aim is to test its possibilities in the joint work with the multipurpose module-type complex, with the "Mir" station bound to become its foundation.

The new spaceship was designed on the "Soyuz-T" basis, and therefore it has the same overall dimensions, and is also designed to deliver a crew of three. But specificity of the tasks to be resolved with its help required considerable modernisation. In the future, when "Mir" is fitted out with side scientific modules, the whole bunch will prove to be asymmetrical. The traditional link up system is therefore no good: It will require great energy input. Usually we orient both the complex and the ship, said Valeriy Ryumin.

If the complex becomes "ramified", a considerable quantity of fuel will be spent for its orientation alone, therefore, instead of the "igla" ("needle") system, we used a new link up system -- "kurs" ("course").

Owing to the new system, the position of the station is of no significance to the ship. It approaches it on its own, flies over it and links up with the unit it chooses. Fuel aboard "Mir" is not spent at all.

Besides, the modernised spaceship has a new, more reliable propulsion unit, and a new system of communication with the earth, which enables the crew to talk with the earth via a geostationary sputnik. The parachute system was changed: It is made of lighter and stronger materials. And it means a net volume saved for the return of cargoes from the orbit. The crew will now be able to bring back the earth not 50 but almost 150 kilograms of scientific materials and instruments. And up to 200 kilograms additionally could be put into orgit. To facilitate the spaceship construction, a new accident rescue propulsion unit was designed. Instruments in different systems of the ship became more perfect. We believe that "Soyuz TM" opens up real prospects in successful development of orbital multimodule complexes, said the mission director.

Touching upon the work being done by Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovev aboard "Salyut-7", Ryumin said that they had lately been busy with reactivating the station, and conducting visual observations of the surface of the earth. In the near future the crew will get down to scientific research. I would like to note that the crew produced the most pleasant impression upon us. For us it is convenient to work with them. We had no complications with them over a period of 70 days they have been in outer space. This is owing to their great experience acquired during an almost eight-month-long expedition aboard the same station. The cosmonauts feel well.

RESEARCH, TELEVISION SATELLITES LAUNCHED

Cosmos-1744

LD221109 Moscow TASS in English 1106 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- The Soviet Union on Wednesday launched an artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1744, next in the series, to continue research in materials study. The satellite was put into orbit with the following parameters:

-- initial period of revolution - 90.4 minutes,
-- maximum distance from the earth's surface (apogee) - 395 kilometres,
-- minimum distance from the earth's surface (perigee) -227 kilometres,
-- inclination of the orbit - 62.8 degrees.

The satellite's on-board equipment is funcioning normally.

Cosmos-1745

LD240809 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0720 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TASS) -- The launch of the latest artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1745, was on 23 May 1986 in the Soviet Union.

Scientific equipment intended for the continuation of space exploration has been installed on board.

The satellite has been launched into the orbit with the following parameters:

-- initial period of revolution: 104.9 minutes;
-- maximum distance from the earth's surface (apogee): 1024 km;
-- minimum distance from the earth's surface (perigee): 984 km;
-- inclination of the orbit: 83 degrees.

Apart from scientific equipment, the satellite contains radio equipment for precise measurement of orbital parameters, and a radiotelemetry system for transmitting data about the functioning of the instruments and scientific equipment to the earth. The equipment installed on the satellite is working normally. A coordination and computing center is processing incoming information.

Ekran

LD241616 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1535 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TASS) -- In accordance with the program for the development of television broadcasting systems using artificial earth satellites, there was a launch today in the USSR of a routine television broadcasting satellite, "Ekran" with on-board relay equipment facilitating the transmission in the decimeter waveband of central television programs for the collective receiver network.

The "Ekran" satellite has been put into a near stationary circular orbit with the initial parameters: distance from the surface of the earth -- 35,500 km; period or rotation around the earth -- 23 hours 44 minutes; inclination of orbit -- 0.3 degrees. The equipment installed on the "Ekran" satellite is working normally.

BRIEFS

EARLY ARCTIC NAVIGATION -- Moscow April 24 TASS -- Soviet sailors intend to open this year's navigation in the eastern sector of the Arctic unusually early, in mid-May, although heavy ice still remains there. In the past the first transport caravan used to appear there in summer. In planning this experiment the seamen count on the exceptional qualities of the new Soviet atomic-powered icebreaker "Rossiya" (75,000 h.p.) that was built in Leningrad early this year, a TASS correspondent was told at the North Sea Route Administration. Fitted out with an original pneumatic system of coping with ice, the ice breaker has already logged more than 15,000 service miles in the Arctic, confidently crushing ice 1.5 metres thick. The final trials are now under way before the experimental sailing: The ship's crew is testing the strength and reliability of all the onboard systems in an area above the 80th parallel, to the north of Franz-Josef Land. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 24 Apr 86 LD]

DRIFTING ICE STATION -- The new Soviet drifting station Severnyy Polyus 28 will begin operating in the Artic Ocean. For the first time, it will be "organized from the air, using parachute drops." A series of flights will be carried out from Tiski to the station site by two I.:76's with special loading platforms, on one of which a bulldozer will be mounted for building a landing strip. The others will carry fuel -- diesel oil in barrels. The parachutists will accompany the cargo that will be dropped onto the ice; they will then unload it from the platforms and build an airstrip for light-motor aircraft, which will deliver the equipment that cannot be dropped. The technique will cut total flying time "more than 20 times," and costs by "more than 2-2.5 times." It will also be applicable elsewhere. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 27 Apr 86 LD]